



STORY & ART BY
REI HIROE

PARENTAL ADVISORY
**EXPLICIT
CONTENT**





Dutch

SKIPPER OF THE OF THE BLACK LAGOON AND LEADER OF THE CREW. DUTCH STAYS COOL NO MATTER HOW BAD THINGS GET. HIS BACKGROUND INCLUDES MILITARY SERVICE, INCLUDING A TOUR IN VIETNAM.

Benny

THE MAN IN CHARGE OF THE HIGH-TECH ELECTRONICS ONBOARD THE BLACK LAGOON. BENNY ESCAPED FROM THE U.S. AND IS ON THE RUN FROM BOTH THE FBI AND THE MAFIA.

Crew of the Black Lagoon

Rock

A FORMER JAPANESE SALARYMAN, WHOSE REAL NAME IS ROKURŌ OKAJIMA. ABANDONED BY HIS COMPANY AFTER THE CREW OF THE BLACK LAGOON ABDUCTED HIM, ROCK LATER JOINED HIS CAPTORS.

Revy

THE BLACK LAGOON'S TOP GUNSLINGER, NICKNAMED "TWO HAND." HER FOUL MOUTH AND EXTREMELY SHORT FUSE USUALLY GET HER IN LOTS OF TROUBLE.

STORY

ROCK, FORMERLY KNOWN AS ROKURŌ OKAJIMA, WAS A FACELESS EMPLOYEE AT A LARGE JAPANESE COMPANY. ON A BUSINESS TRIP HE WAS ABDUCTED AND HELD FOR RANSOM BY THE CREW OF THE BLACK LAGOON. SHOCKED AND ANGERED WHEN HIS COMPANY CALLOUSLY THREW HIM TO THE WOLVES IN ORDER TO SAVE THEIR OWN SKINS, ROCK DECIDED TO CHANGE COURSE IN LIFE AND JOINED THE CREW OF THE *BLACK LAGOON*.

WITH A BRIEFCASE FULL OF DOCUMENTS DETAILING A TERRORIST PLOT PLANNED BY MILITANT EXTREMISTS, THE CREW OF THE *BLACK LAGOON* RACES TO MAKE DELIVERY AT A U.S. MILITARY BASE IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE TERRORISTS, LED BY TAKENAKA AND IBRAHA, NOW PURSUE ROCK, REVY, THE BEAUTIFUL AND DEADLY ASSASSIN SHENHUA, AND THE CRAZED GETAWAY DRIVER LEIGHARCH THROUGH THE JUNGLE IN A WILD RUN-AND-GUN CHASE!



Chang

BOSS OF THE ROANAPUR BRANCH OF THE HONG KONG TRIAD CRIMINAL GANG.



Balalaika

BOSS OF THE THAI BRANCH OF "HOTEL MOSCOW," A NOTED RUSSIAN CRIMINAL GANG. BALALAIKA ONCE WAS A CAPTAIN IN THE RED ARMY OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.



Legarch

GETAWAY DRIVER HIRED BY CHANG. A SPACED-OUT JUNKIE WITH INCREDIBLE DRIVING SKILLS.

Shenhua

CHINESE BODYGUARD HIRED BY CHANG, NICKNAMED "CHINGLISH GAL" BY REVY.



Takenaka

FOLLOWING HIS EXPERIENCES IN THE 1960'S JAPANESE STUDENT PROTESTS, HIS FAITH IN A WORLDWIDE WORKERS REVOLUTION LED HIM TO LEAVE JAPAN AND BECOME A TERRORIST IN THE MIDDLE EAST.



Ibraha

MUSLIM RADICAL AND TERRORIST. HE JOINED A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION FOLLOWING THE MURDER OF HIS SON IN BEIRUT BY ISRAELI FORCES.

BLACK LAGOON



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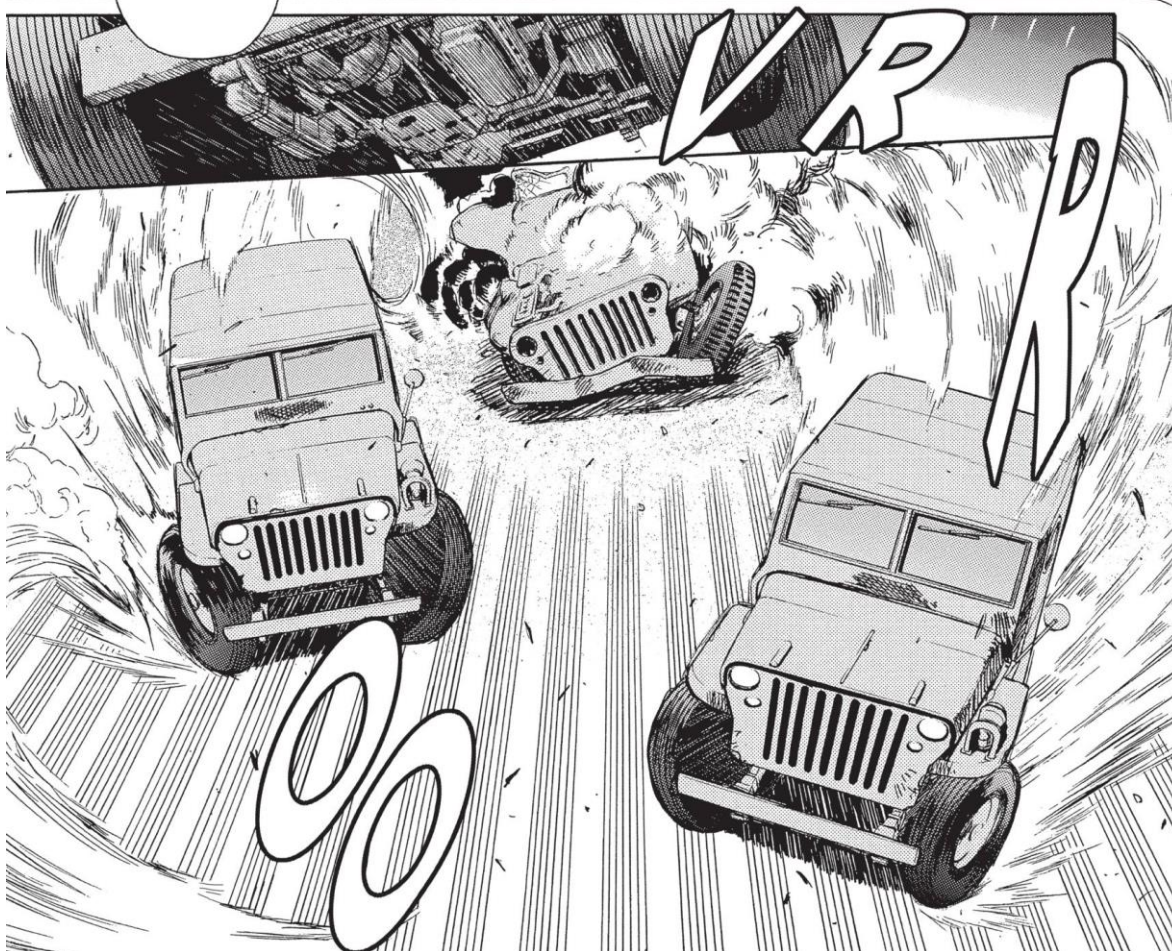
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CHAPTER 21 : GOAT, JIHAD, ROCK 'N' ROLL - PART VI



















OH NO.
YOU NEED
RIGHT
MENTAL
STATE FOR
GOOD
TRIP.

DAMN,
I BLEW
THAT
ONE.

NEVER
THOUGHT AN
OPTIMIST LIKE
HIM WOULD
GET ALL
BUMMED OUT.

OOOHHH...
MAAANN...
...



I'VE BEEN
RUNNING AWAY
FROM THINGS
I DIDN'T
WANNA DO
SINCE KINDER-
GARTEN...

CRAAAP...
I'M SOOOO
SCREWED...

OH!

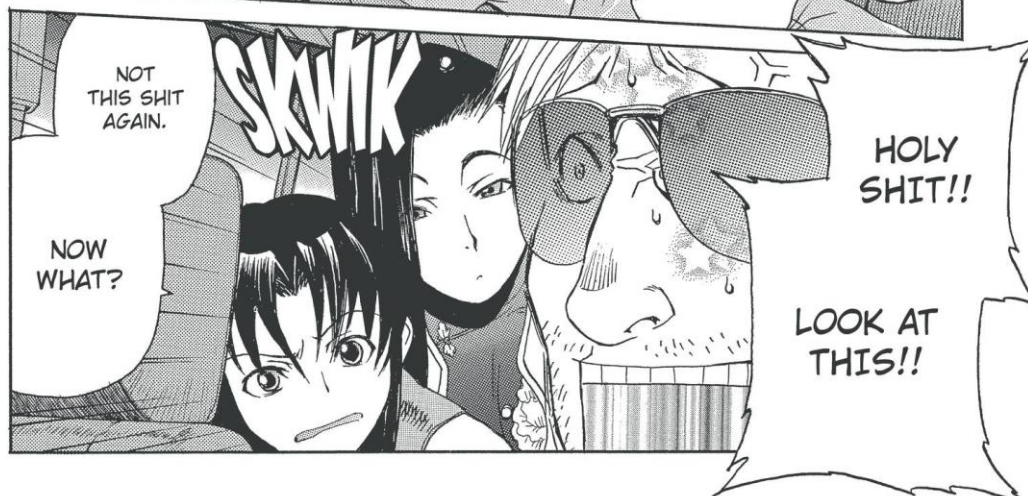
HIS TRIP
GOING
BAD, YES.



COME TO THINK
OF IT, ALL I DID
WAS LAY OUT
LAME OLD
EXCUSES...
YOU KNOW...

...THERE I AM,
TALKING WITH
THE GUY LIKE
I WAS SOME
BIG SHOT.
I COULDN'T
HELP IT...

UGH...



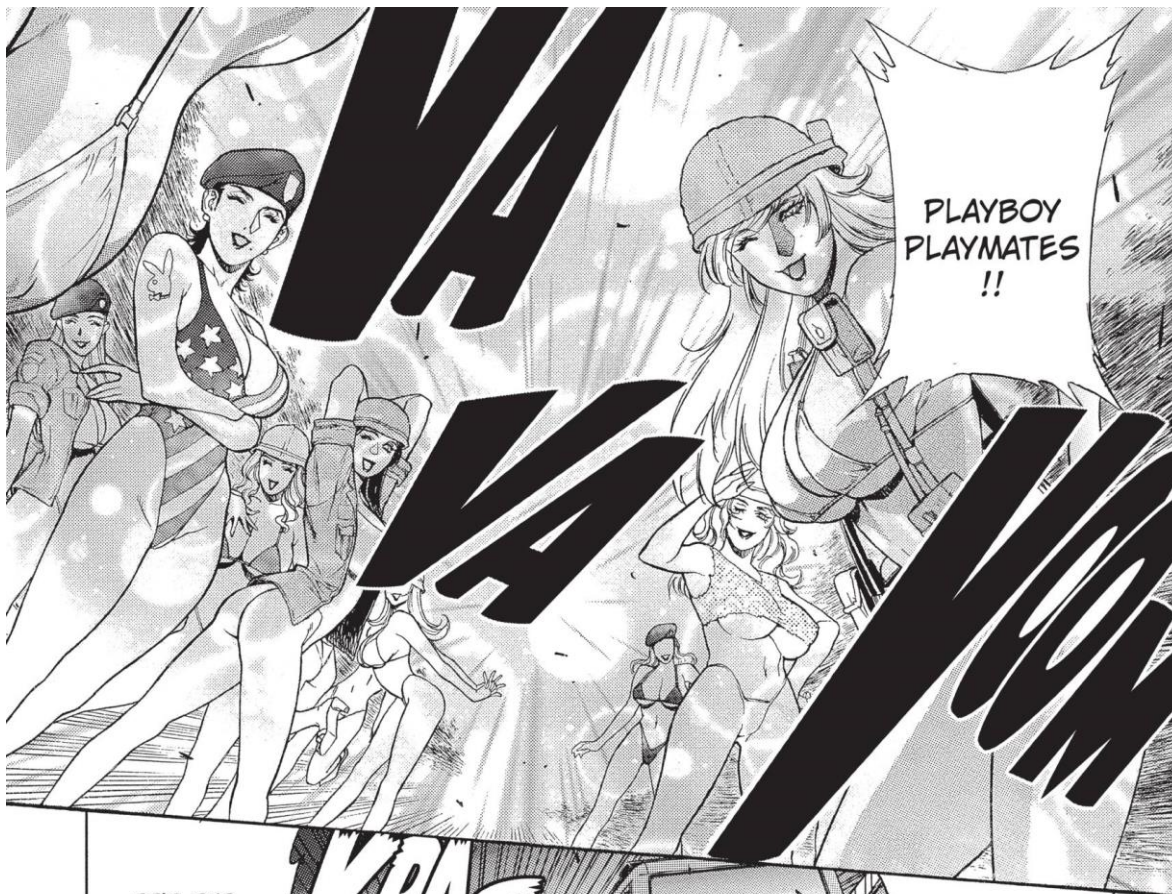
NOT
THIS SHIT
AGAIN.

NOW
WHAT?

SKWIK

HOLY
SHIT!!

LOOK AT
THIS!!

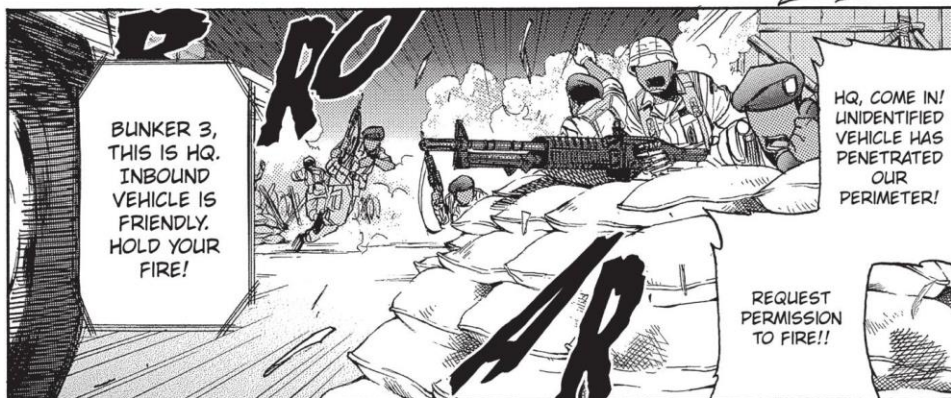


PLAYBOY
PLAYMATES
!!



IT'S THE
INVASION
OF THE
PLAYMATE
PLATOON!!

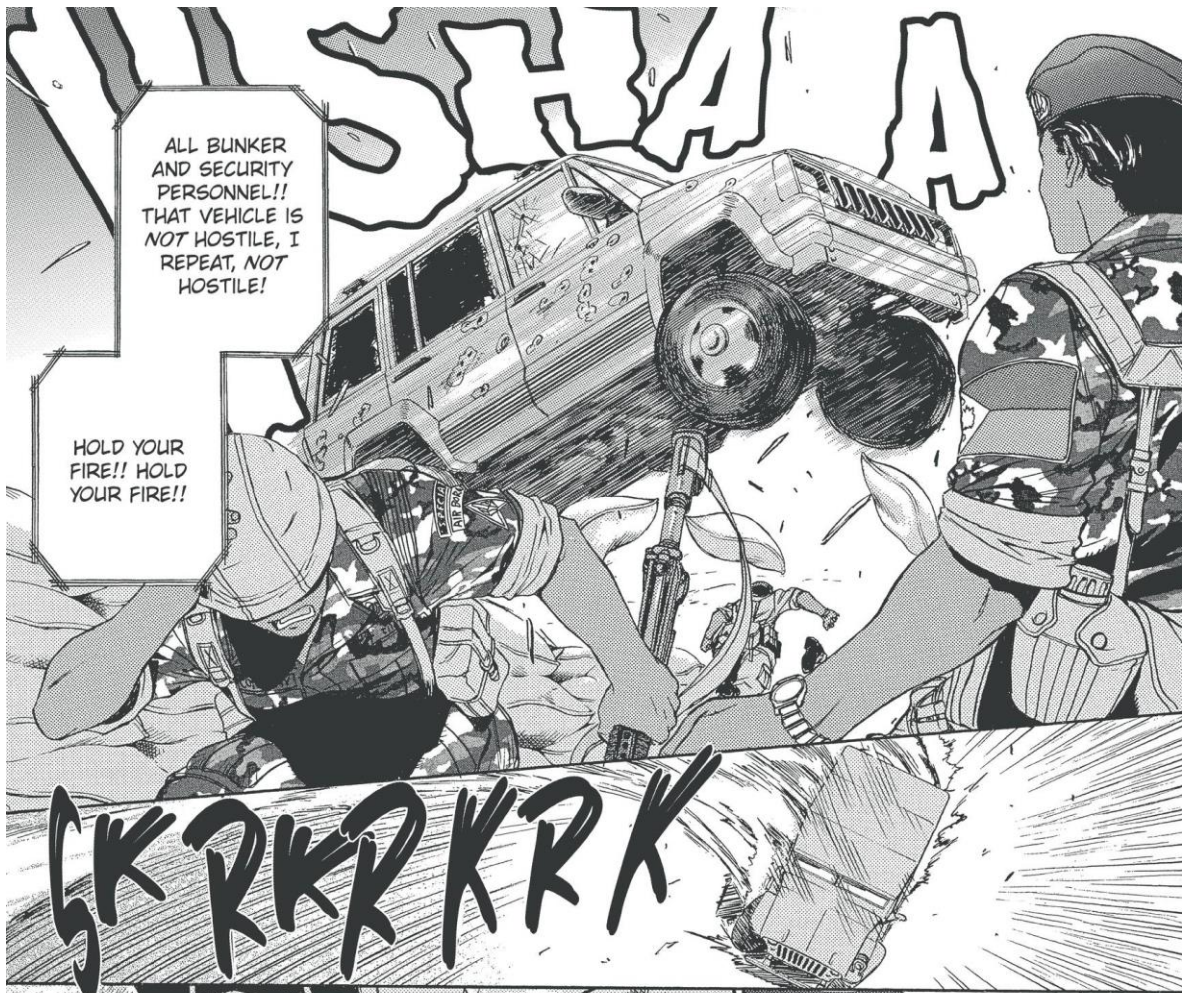
THERE'S LIKE
A HUNDRED OF
'EM! FROM
EVERY ISSUE
SINCE 1990!



BUNKER 3,
THIS IS HQ.
INBOUND
VEHICLE IS
FRIENDLY.
HOLD YOUR
FIRE!

HQ, COME IN!
UNIDENTIFIED
VEHICLE HAS
PENETRATED
OUR
PERIMETER!

REQUEST
PERMISSION
TO FIRE!!



ALL BUNKER
AND SECURITY
PERSONNEL!!
THAT VEHICLE IS
NOT HOSTILE, I
REPEAT, NOT
HOSTILE!

HOLD YOUR
FIRE!! HOLD
YOUR FIRE!!



YOU WANT TO
LOSE YOUR
COMRADES,
YOUR BASE,
AND ALL OUR
PLANS AS
WELL?

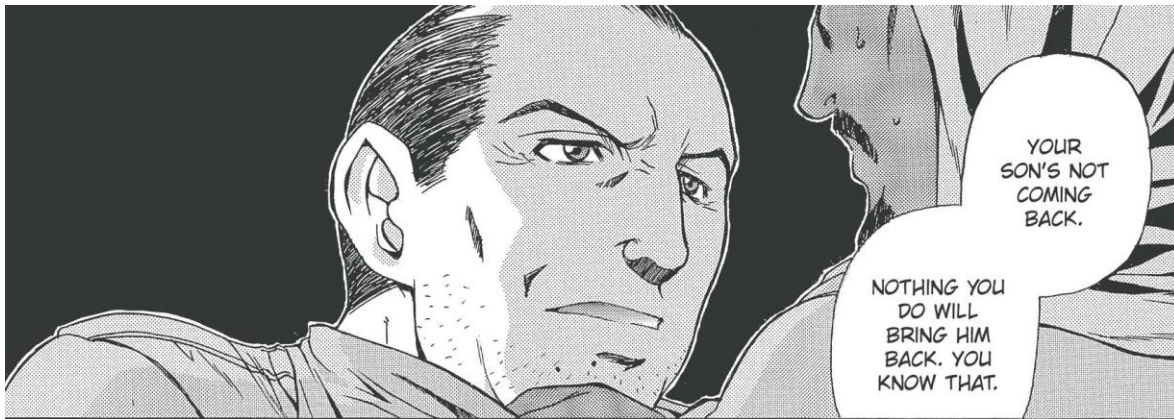
LISTEN TO
ME IBRAHA.

LET IT
GO.

WE'VE LOST
THIS ONE.

TAKENAKA!!

GRAB



YOUR
SON'S NOT
COMING
BACK.

NOTHING YOU
DO WILL
BRING HIM
BACK. YOU
KNOW THAT.



I'LL MAKE THEM
UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT WAS
LIKE IN THAT
RED CROSS
CAMP IN BEIRUT
IN 1987. THAT'S
WHY I'M HERE!!

...IN
JERUSALEM
AND THE
BASTARDS
THAT PROTECT
THEM.

...
TAKENAKA
...

WE ARE THIS
CLOSE...THIS
CLOSE TO
GETTING
REVENGE ON
THOSE FILTHY
DOGS...



BELAY THAT
ORDER!!
DO NOT
PROCEED!

IBRAHA! DON'T
BETRAY OUR
CAUSE OVER
THE MISSION!

CONTINUE
PURSUIT!
STORM THE
CAMP!



YOU FIGHT FOR
THE CAUSE AND
EVERYONE ELSE
THAT HAS DIED
FOR IT!! JUST
LIKE ME!

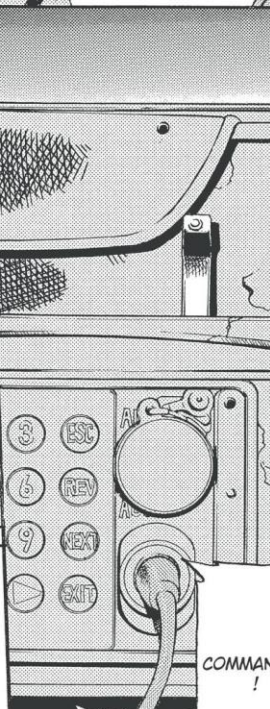
BETRAY
THE
CAUSE?!

TAKENAKA!



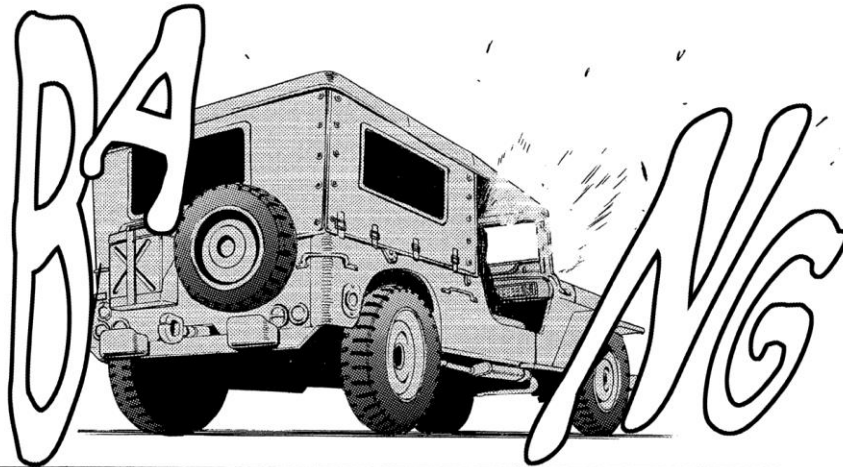
THAT'S WHY
YOU CAME TO
BEKKA VALLEY,
ISN'T IT?!

ANSWER
ME, TAKE-



COMMANDER
!

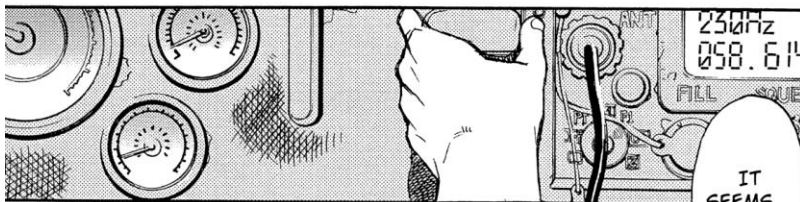
YOUR
ORDERS,
SIR!!



WE WILL
REGROUP
AT THE
SECONDARY
RALLY POINT.

DO NOT
RETURN
TO CAMP.

...
ALL
UNITS...



IT
SEEMS...



I SUPPOSE
WE WON'T
GET VERY
FAR UNTIL
WE STOP
DOING THAT.

BUT THEN
AGAIN, WE
COULDN'T STAND
OUR GROUND
IF WE DID,
COULD WE?

...NEITHER OF
US CAN TAKE
OUR EYES
OFF THE
PAST.





YOU'RE
LATE...

...MR.
SPOOK!



SO
WHAT'VE
YOU GOT?

WHERE'S THIS
THING THAT'S
SUPPOSED TO
GIVE ME A
TEN-FOOT
HARD-ON?

LOTTA
ASSHOLES
TRYING TO
SHIT ON
FREEDOM AND
JUSTICE AND
ALL THAT.

WE'RE
BUSY
DOWN AT
LANGLEY
THESE
DAYS.



REVV!
WE'RE
SCREWED!

WHAT
?!

OH
NO...THE
BRIEF-
CASE!

STAY COOL,
ROCK.

LET'S SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN MS.
HARRY HOUDINI
REACHES INTO
HER MAGIC
VASE HERE
AND...

WE
DON'T
HAVE
IT?!



什么?!
WHAT?!

PRESTO.





REVVY!!

OUR JOB FINISHED FINALLY, YES?

QUITE A RUN.

THANKS, REVVY. I MEAN IT.

I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO THANK YOU YET.

UM...

AIYAA...

FWAAHH

B

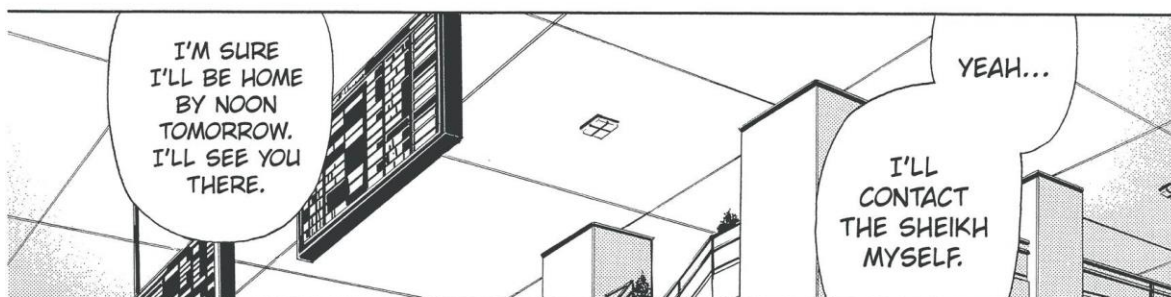
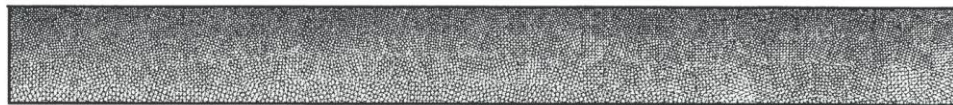
BOOM

KNOCK IT OFF. JEEZ...

DON'T GET HUNG UP ON IT.

BOOM

'CAUSE GUESS WHAT, ROCK...

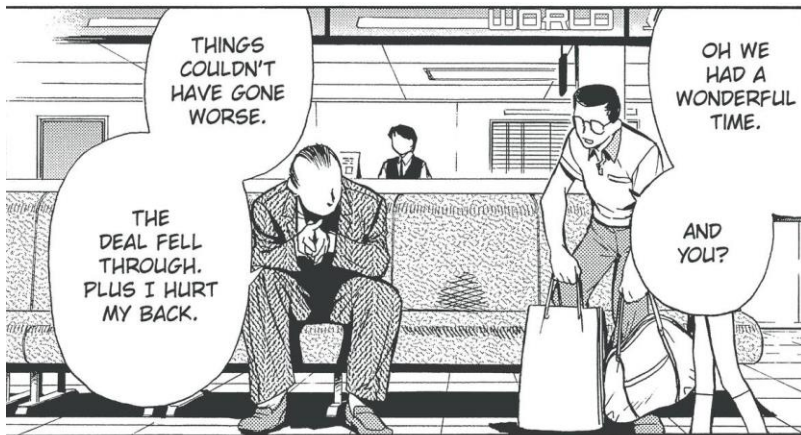




HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?

YES, I REMEMBER. THE FAMILY-MAN GOING TO PHUKET.

AH...!



THINGS COULDN'T HAVE GONE WORSE.

THE DEAL FELL THROUGH. PLUS I HURT MY BACK.

OH WE HAD A WONDERFUL TIME.

AND YOU?



HELLO THERE!

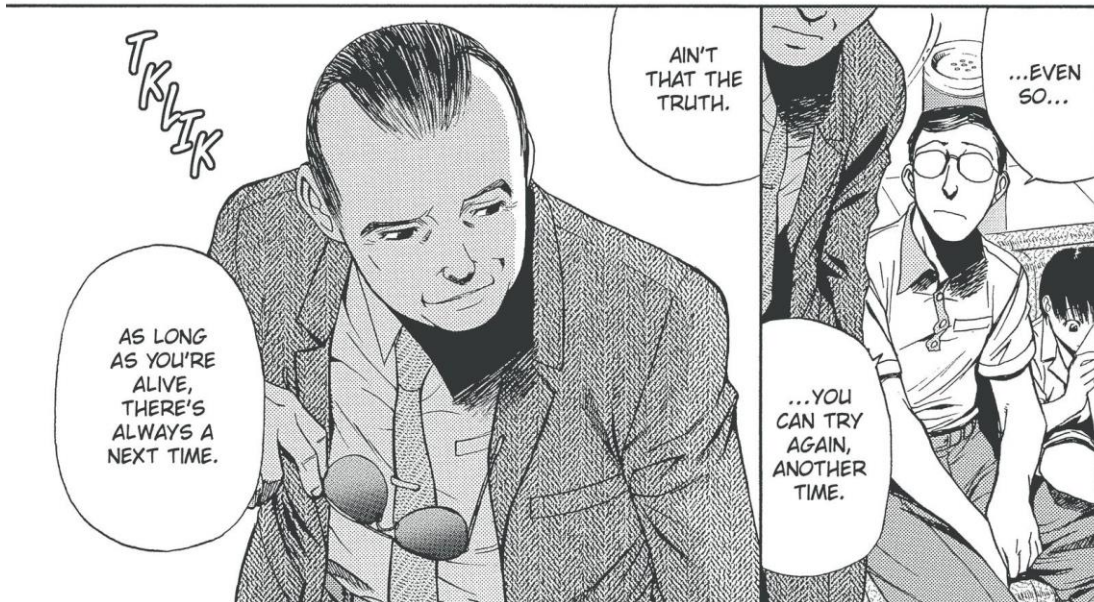
MR. YASUO DAICHI! LOOK-ALIKE!

FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!!



IT SURE SUCKS TO GROW OLD. I TELL YA.

I ENDED UP FALLING OUT WITH A CLOSE FRIEND OVER A DISAGREEMENT. WE KEPT FIGHTING ABOUT HAVING YOUNG KIDS DO THINGS WE COULDN'T DO OURSELVES.



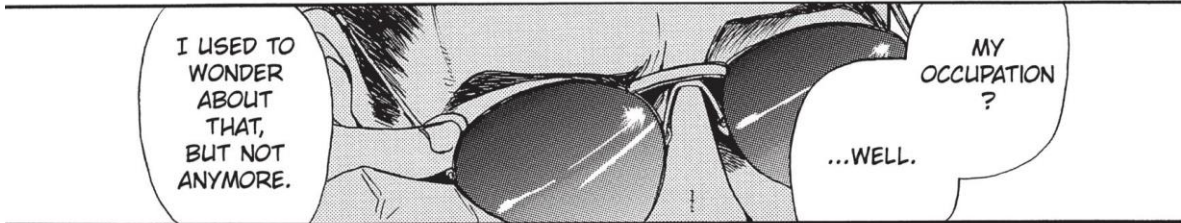
TKLTK

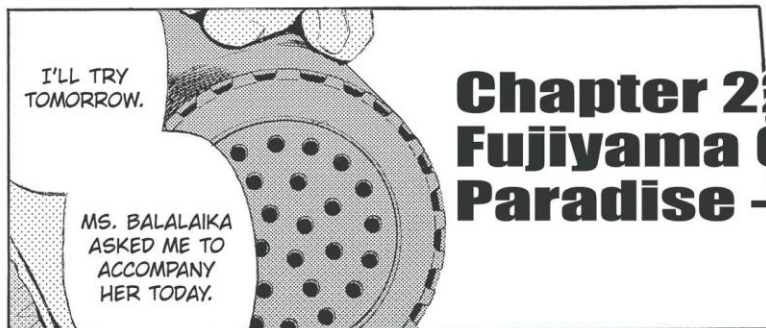
AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALIVE, THERE'S ALWAYS A NEXT TIME.

AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH.

...EVEN SO...

...YOU CAN TRY AGAIN, ANOTHER TIME.

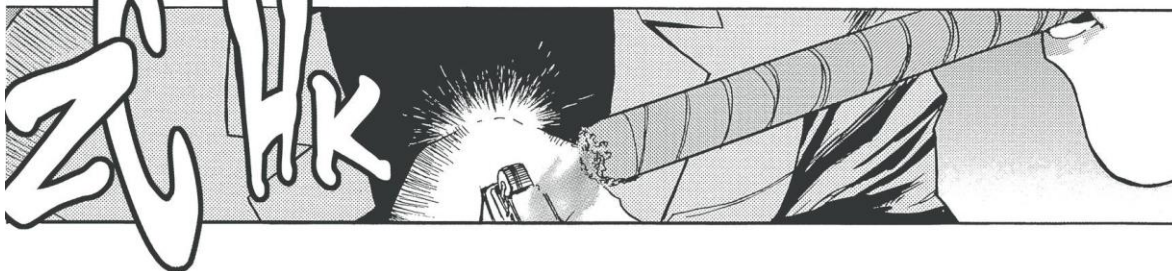






Chapter 22: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part I







THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME
WE'VE MET
FACE TO
FACE.

I CAN'T THANK
YOU ENOUGH
FOR TRAVELING
SUCH A GREAT
DISTANCE TO BE
HERE. THESE ARE
THE MEMBERS OF
OUR KUMI.

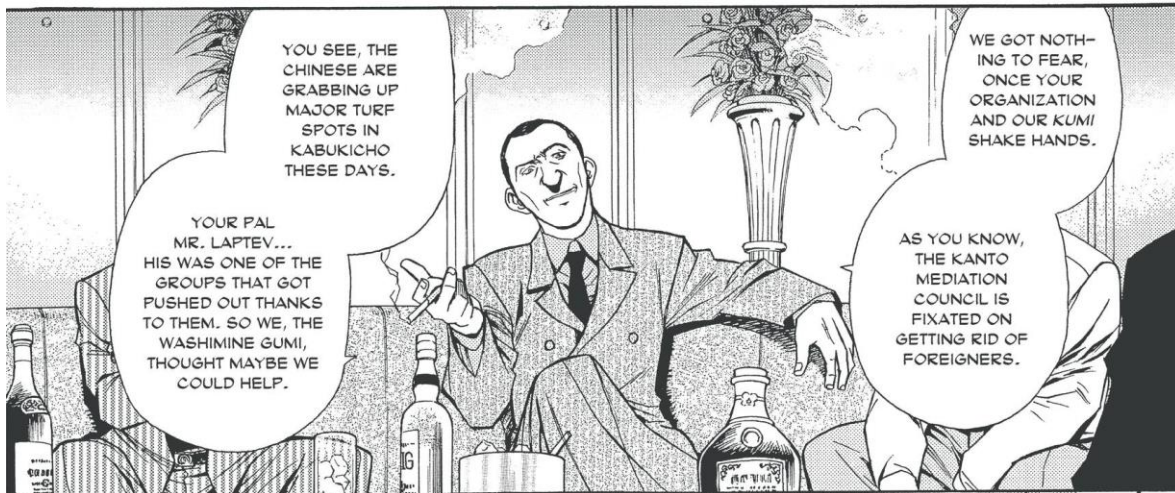
I...I BELIEVE
I HAVEN'T
LEARNED
YOUR NAME
YET, SO IF...



WE'VE BEEN
EAGER TO SET
UP A BASE IN
TOKYO FOR
SOME TIME.
I APPRECIATE
YOUR ASSIS-
TANCE.

I'VE BEEN
BRIEFED BY
LAPTEV.

JUST
BALALAIKA
IS FINE.



YOU SEE, THE CHINESE ARE GRABBING UP MAJOR TURF SPOTS IN KABUKICHO THESE DAYS.

YOUR PAL MR. LAPTEV... HIS WAS ONE OF THE GROUPS THAT GOT PUSHED OUT THANKS TO THEM. SO WE, THE WASHIMINE GUMI, THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD HELP.

WE GOT NOTHING TO FEAR, ONCE YOUR ORGANIZATION AND OUR KUMI SHAKE HANDS.

AS YOU KNOW, THE KANTO MEDIATION COUNCIL IS FIXATED ON GETTING RID OF FOREIGNERS.



WE TAKE AN OATH OF LOYALTY...

...BUT YA CAN ONLY STRETCH IT SO FAR.

WE PAY VERY HEFTY TRIBUTES TO OUR PARENT GROUP, THE KOSA KAI.

I'D LIKE TO THINK WE WALKED THE EXTRA MILE TO FULFILL OUR DUTY TO THE COUNCIL. BUT THEY'RE STILL LEAVIN' US OUT IN THE COLD.

BUT...

...ISN'T THE WASHIMINE GUMI A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL?



...WHILE WE
ADD ANOTHER
LIGHT TO THIS
CITY.

OUR GOALS
ARE MUTUALLY
COMPATIBLE,
MR. BANDO.

YOU EXPAND
YOUR REACH
WITH OUR
HELP...



THIS IS GONNA
BE GOOD FOR
OUR FAMILY,
GOOD FOR OUR
REPUTATION.

I THINK
WE'RE GONNA
GET ALONG
JUST FINE.

...I HEAR YOU'RE
QUITE ADEPT.
EVEN AMONG THE
OTHER RUSSIANS.

WITH YOU
HOLDING DOWN
THE KOSA KAI,
THE COUNCIL'LL
SOON START
SEEING THINGS
OUR WAY.



KCHK

THEY
CAN'T BE
COMPARED
TO ANYTHING
YOU HAVE
HERE.

WE ARE A
MILITARY
FORCE, MR.
BANDO. NOW...

...LET ME
SHOW YOU.

PIBIPI



YOU'RE
CONCERNED
ABOUT OUR
CAPABILITIES?



YES
INDEED.

FOR STARTERS,
WE'VE BLOWN
UP ONE OF
KOSA KAI'S
CLUBS.

...
THAT WAS
YOUR
PEOPLE?



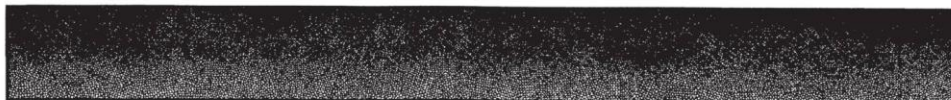
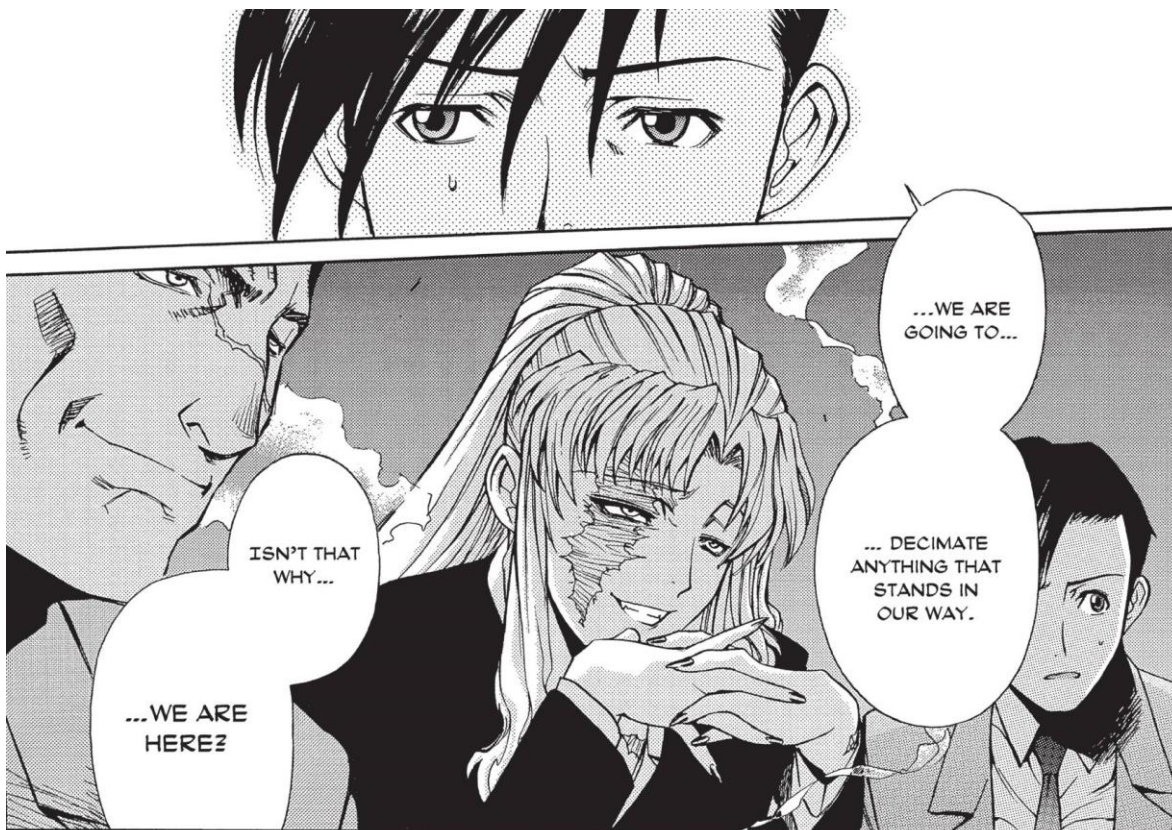
BLOWN
UP?!



INTIMIDATION
WITH HANDGUNS
AMOUNTS TO
NOTHING. WE MAKE
OUR STRENGTH
VERY CLEAR WITH
OUR FIRST STRIKE.

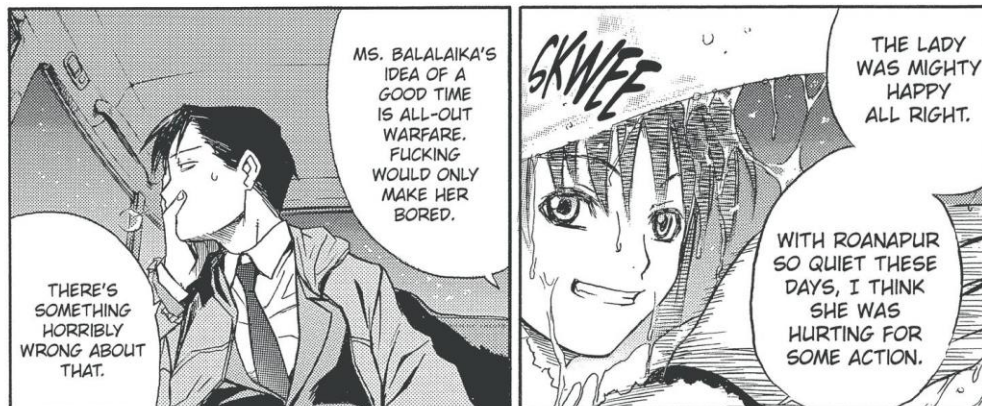
THIS IS
HOW HOTEL
MOSCOW
MAKES A
SHOW OF
FORCE.

HOLY SHIT,
ARE YOU
OUT OF
YOUR
FUCKING
MINDS?!





OH MAN,
DID YOU
SEE THAT?







KPK

...

ME?
ABOUT
WHAT?

GETTIN'
SENTIMENTAL
?

YOU KNOW
PEOPLE HERE...
YOU GOT FOLKS
HERE, RIGHT?
YOU DIDN'T
SPAWN OUT OF
SOME HOLE IN
THE GROUND.

ABOUT
WHAT?
YOU DICKIN'
WITH ME?

THIS IS
YOUR HOME.

SEEING YOU
GETTING
ALL INTRO-
SPECTIVE
AND SHIT.

CHK

NEVER
MIND.

JUST
WONDERIN',
THAT'S ALL.

...

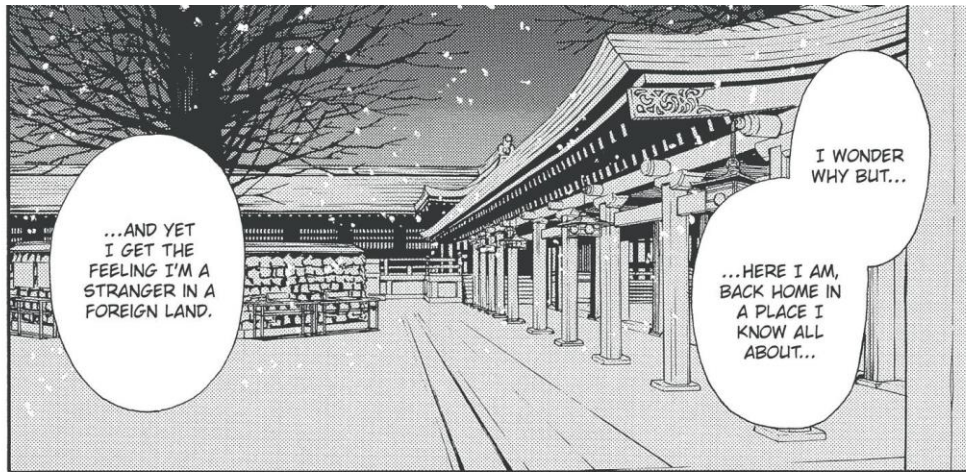
I
THOUGHT
NOSEY
PEOPLE
DIDN'T
LAST IN
THIS
BUSINESS.

THAT WAS
A YEAR
AGO. IT
WENT BY
FAST...

SEEMS
LIKE IT
WAS ONLY
YESTER-
DAY...

...WHEN YOU
HELD ME AT
GUNPOINT ON
THAT SHIP.

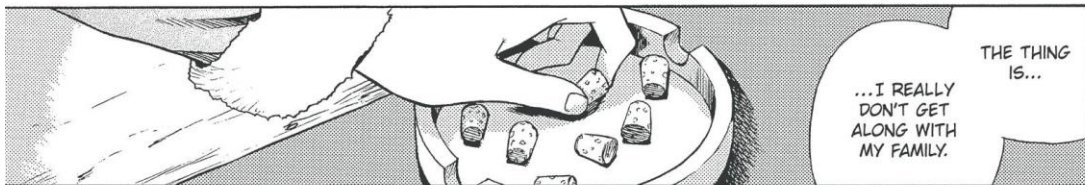
TOK



...AND YET
I GET THE
FEELING I'M A
STRANGER IN A
FOREIGN LAND.

I WONDER
WHY BUT...

...HERE I AM,
BACK HOME IN
A PLACE I
KNOW ALL
ABOUT...



THE THING
IS...

...I REALLY
DON'T GET
ALONG WITH
MY FAMILY.



MY FAMILY
REALLY
DOESN'T
EXPECT MUCH
OUT OF ME.

SO MAYBE
THEY DON'T
EVEN CARE
ABOUT ME
ANYMORE.

MY OLDER
BROTHER HAD IT
TOGETHER AND
GOT HIMSELF A
GOVERNMENT
JOB...

...BUT I NEEDED
TWO TRIES
TO GET INTO
COLLEGE AND
ENDED UP WITH
A REGULAR JOB.



NOW'S
YOUR
CHANCE.

YOU STAY
IN THIS
BUSINESS,
PRETTY SOON
YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO SEE
'EM ANYMORE.

AND
BESIDES...

DROP THEM
A NOTE AT
LEAST.

YOU
AIN'T BEEN
ARRESTED
YET.

YEAH,
SURE.

BUT YOUR
FOLKS'RE
STILL
ALIVE,
RIGHT?



...THEY
BROUGHT
YOU UP ALL
LEGIT.

NO
STEALING,
NO KILLING
ALONG THE
WAY.

AS FAR
AS I CAN
SEE, THAT'S
A DAMN GOOD
ORDINARY
FAMILY.

I'M JUST
SAYIN' GO
HAVE A VISIT.
THAT'S ALL.

DON'T
GET ME
WRONG.

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
REVV?

MY
FAMILY'S
SCREWED
UP PLENTY,
TRUST ME.

THE FACT
THAT I CHOSE
TO HITCH UP
WITH YOU GUYS
SHOULD
TELL YOU
SOMETHING.











LOOK, REVY, HE SAYS
YOU'LL GET YOUR
MONEY BACK.

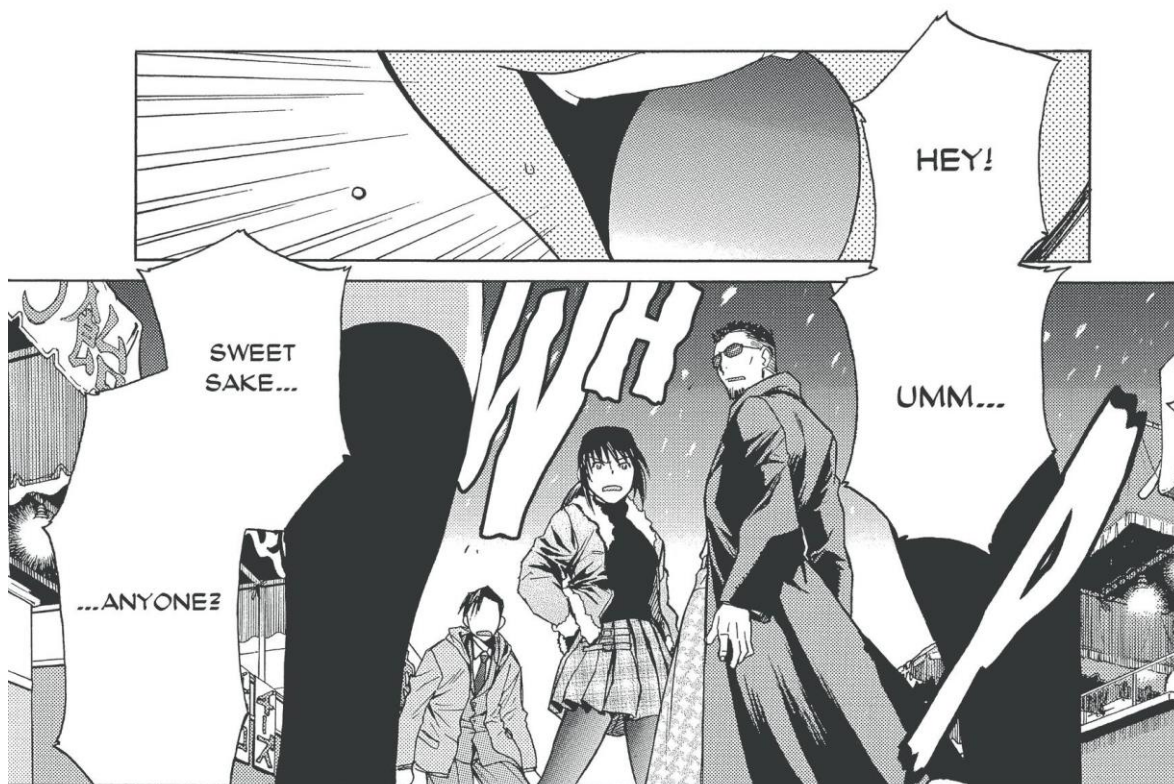
LET'S GO. DON'T
MAKE A SCENE.

HEY ROCK, BABY.
WHOSE SIDE ARE
YOU ON?

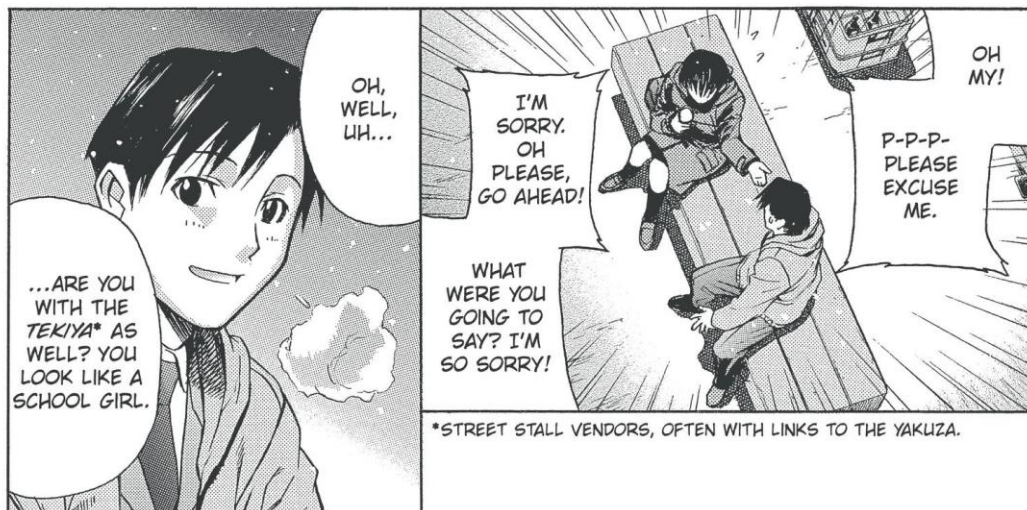
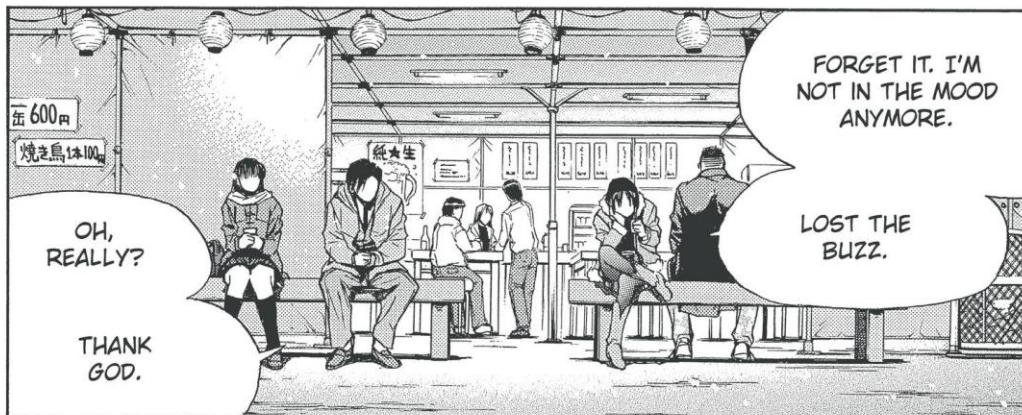
YO JUMBO. YOU
DON'T UNDERSTAND
ENGLISH?

Chapter 23: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part II













ACTUALLY,
NO. SHE'S
CHINESE-
AMERICAN.

UH, HOW DO
I PUT THIS
SIMPLY...

SHE'S MY
CO-WORKER.
I WAS HIRED BY
SOME RUSSIAN
FOLKS TO
BE THEIR
INTERPRETER.

BMP
BMP
BMP



OH,
UH...

YOUR
COMPAN-
ION...

...SHE'S
NOT
JAPANESE?



YOU'LL
HAVE TO
EXCUSE
HER. SHE'S
GOT A REAL
SHORT
TEMPER.

I'M
JUST
GLAD
THINGS
DIDN'T GET
OUT OF
HAND.



IT'S NOT AT ALL
AS GLAMOROUS
AS YOU MIGHT
THINK. I WORK
FOR A SMALL
OUTFIT AND THE
EVERYDAY WORK
IS ROUGH.

REAL
BACK-BREAKING
STUFF. PLUS IT'S
DANGEROUS.

WOW...

THAT'S
WONDERFUL.
SUCH AN
INTERNATIONAL-
SOUNDING JOB.



...GODDAMNED
JACKOFF.

JUST LOOK
AT HIM GETTING
ALL DOPEY.

WHAT'S UP
WITH HIM...?

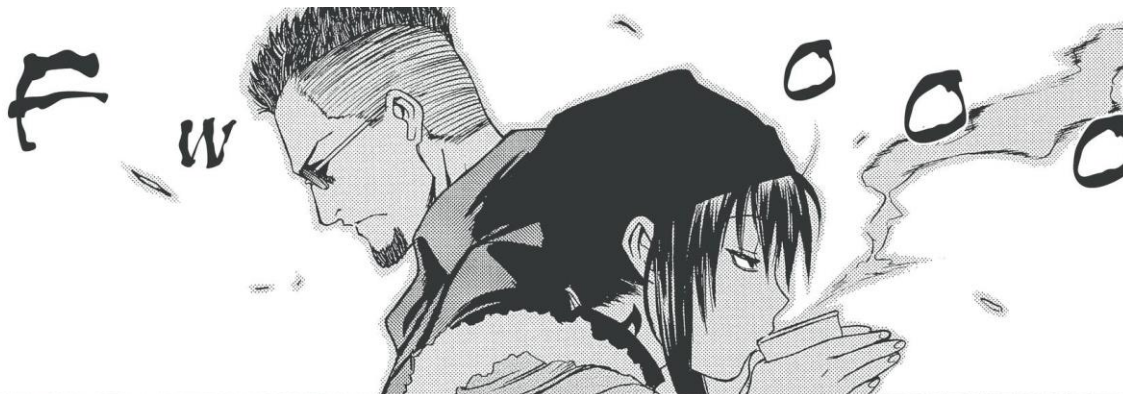


...
DANGEROUS
?

WHAT?

OH YEAH!
YOU BET!
WELL, UH,
HOW DO I
SAY THIS...





MISS...



WELL...



THESE LOW TEMPERATURES AREN'T GOOD FOR YOU.

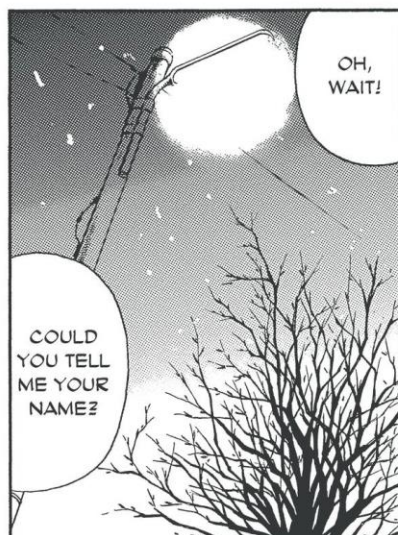
WE SHOULD—

OH YES!



CERTAINLY!

IT'S GETTING VERY COLD NOW.



OH, WAIT!

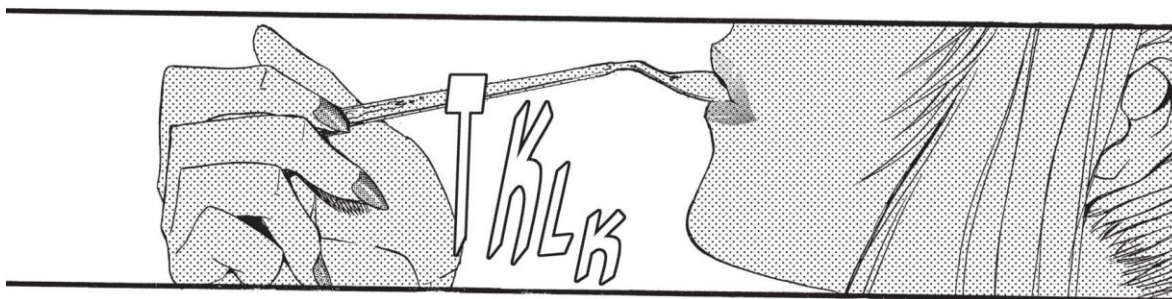
COULD YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME?



RIGHT.

WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY THEN.

OKAY, GOOD-BYE.



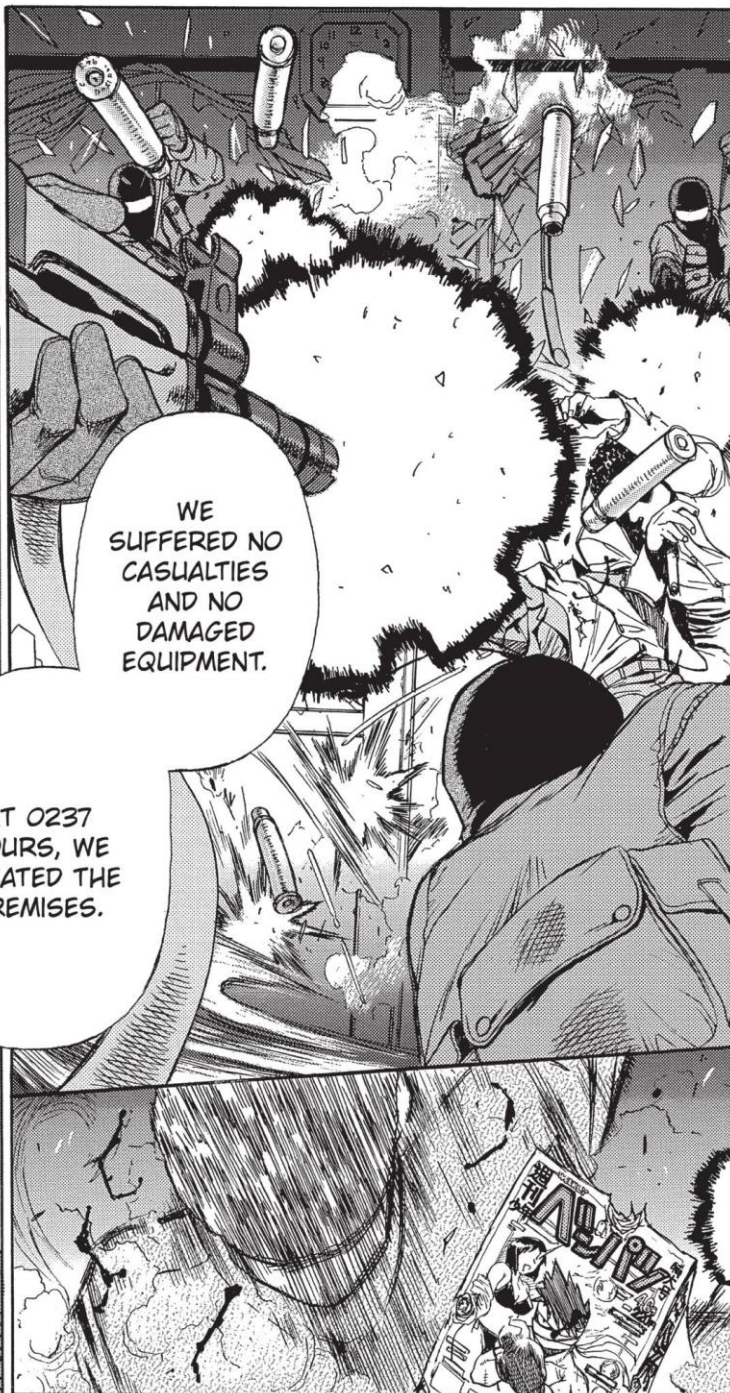


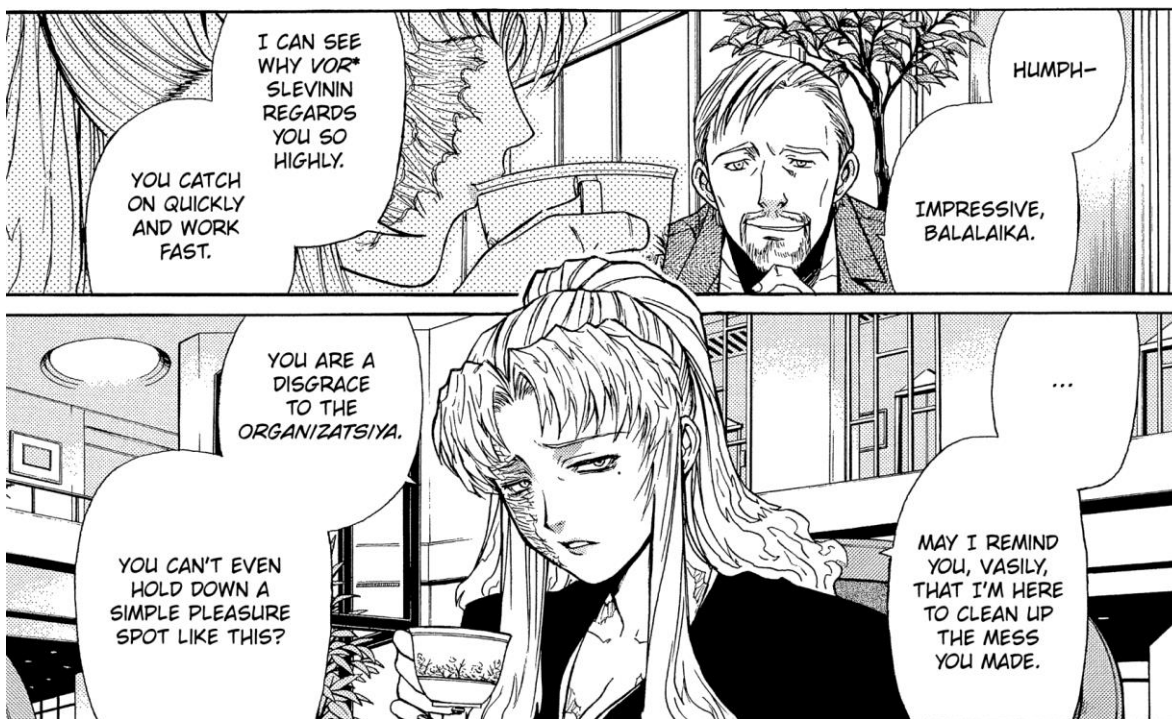


AT 0230
HOURS,
THEY HIT THE
OFFICES OF
THE KOSA KAI.

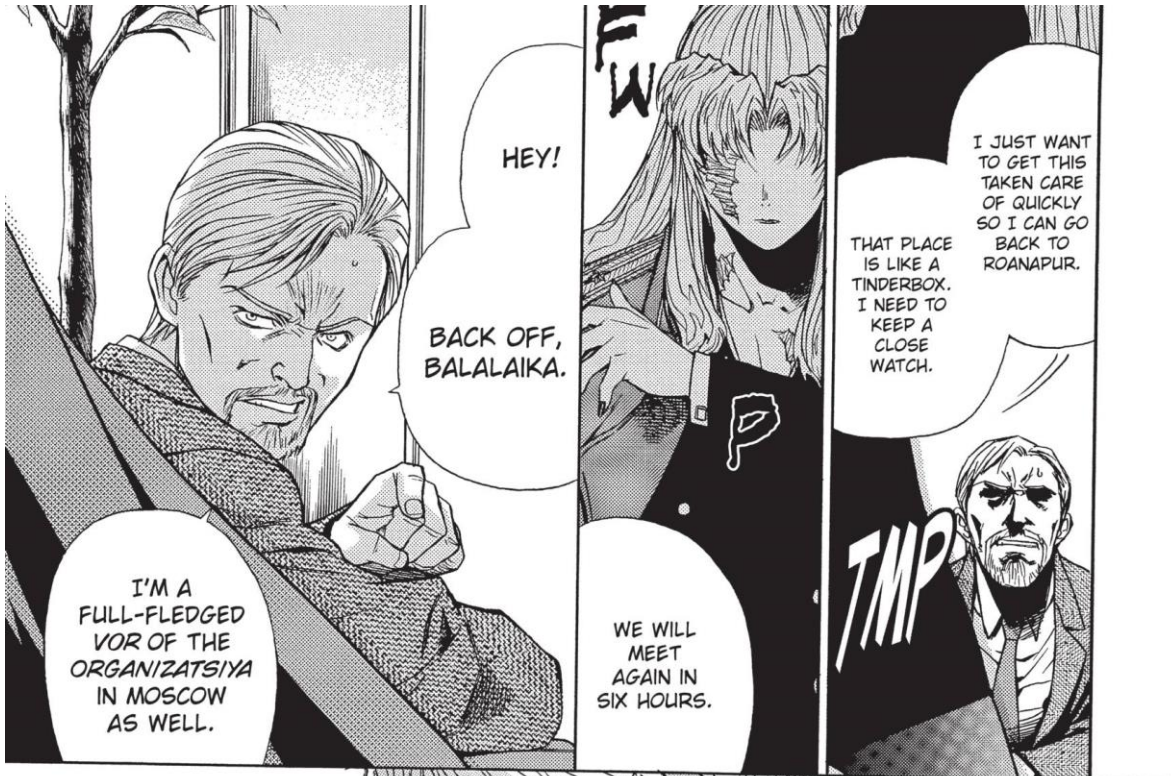
TWELVE
CONFIRMED
KILLS.

KAK
KAK





*FROM VOR V ZAKONE, LITERALLY, "THIEF IN LAW"-RUSSIAN CRIMINALS WHO FOLLOW A TRADITIONAL CODE OF BEHAVIOR.



I'M A
FULL-FLEDGED
VOR OF THE
ORGANIZATSIYA
IN MOSCOW
AS WELL.

HEY!

BACK OFF,
BALALAIKA.

WE WILL
MEET
AGAIN IN
SIX HOURS.

THAT PLACE
IS LIKE A
TINDERBOX.
I NEED TO
KEEP A
CLOSE
WATCH.

I JUST WANT
TO GET THIS
TAKEN CARE
OF QUICKLY
SO I CAN GO
BACK TO
ROANAPUR.

TMP



PERHAPS I
SHOULD JOT
YOUR NAME
DOWN ON A
DOLLAR BILL.

OH,
I'M SO
SORRY.

MY MEMORY
IS WEAK
WHEN IT
COMES TO
THOSE WHO
BOUGHT
THEIR WAY
INTO THEIR
POSITION.



BARK
ALL YOU
WANT...

...YOU
WORTHLESS
BITCH OF A
SOLDIER.



ONE IS
BLINI
GONE
COLD.

THE OTHER
IS COWARDLY
KGB SHITS.

I WILL
WARN YOU
JUST THIS
ONCE.

THERE ARE
TWO THINGS IN
THIS WORLD I
CAN'T STAND.

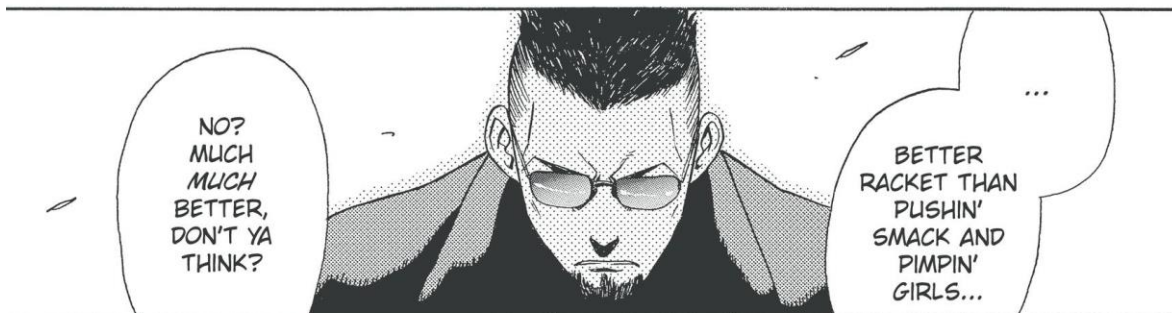
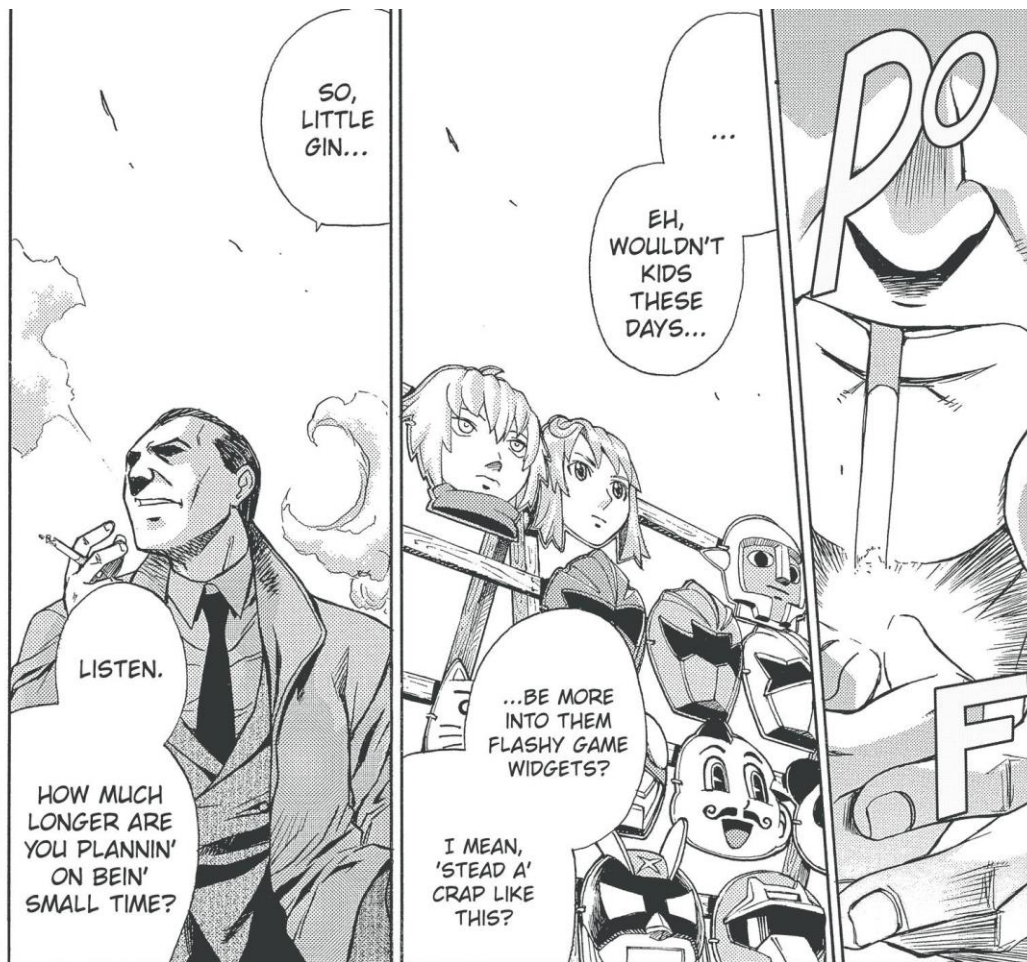


JUST MAKE
SURE TO
KEEP YOUR
HEAD DOWN.

YOU WOULDN'T
WANT TO GET
HIT BY A STRAY
BULLET, WOULD
YOU?

NEITHER
DOES
ANYONE
ANY GOOD.
DON'T YOU
AGREE?







YOU
SAYIN' I
DO IT FOR
KICKS?

YA THINK I
LIKE THAT
KINDA SHITTY
BUSINESS?

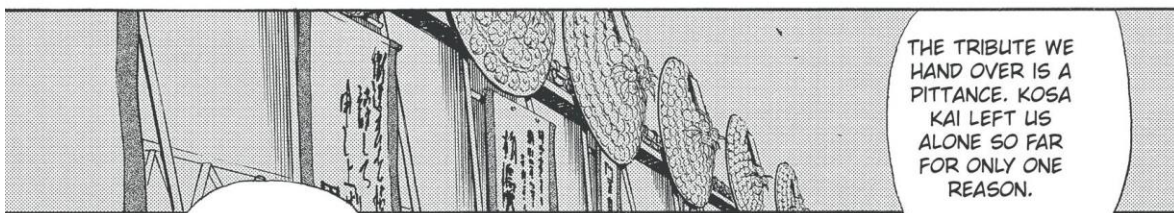
HEY,
LITTLE
GIN.



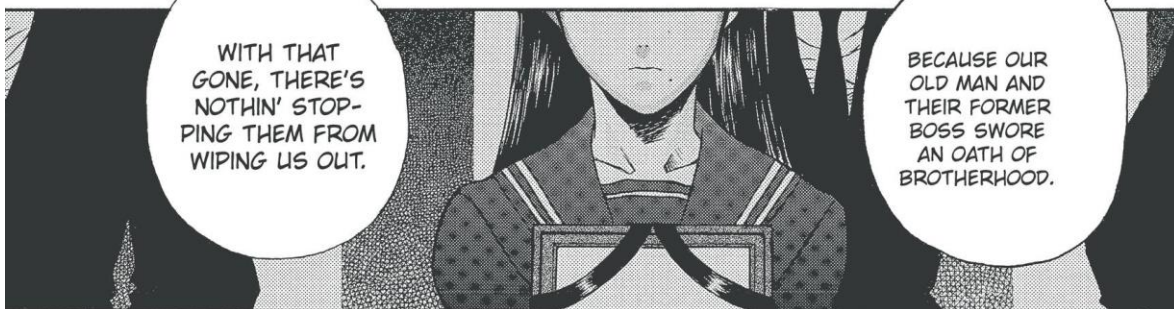
OUR
KUMI'S BEEN
HURTIN'...
HURTIN' A
LONG TIME.

EVER SINCE
THE BOSS
BOUGHT THE
FARM. HELL,
IT GOES
BACK EVEN
FURTHER.

...



THE TRIBUTE WE
HAND OVER IS A
PITTANCE. KOSA
KAI LEFT US
ALONE SO FAR
FOR ONLY ONE
REASON.



WITH THAT
GONE, THERE'S
NOTHIN' STOP-
PING THEM FROM
WIPING US OUT.

BECAUSE OUR
OLD MAN AND
THEIR FORMER
BOSS SWORE
AN OATH OF
BROTHERHOOD.

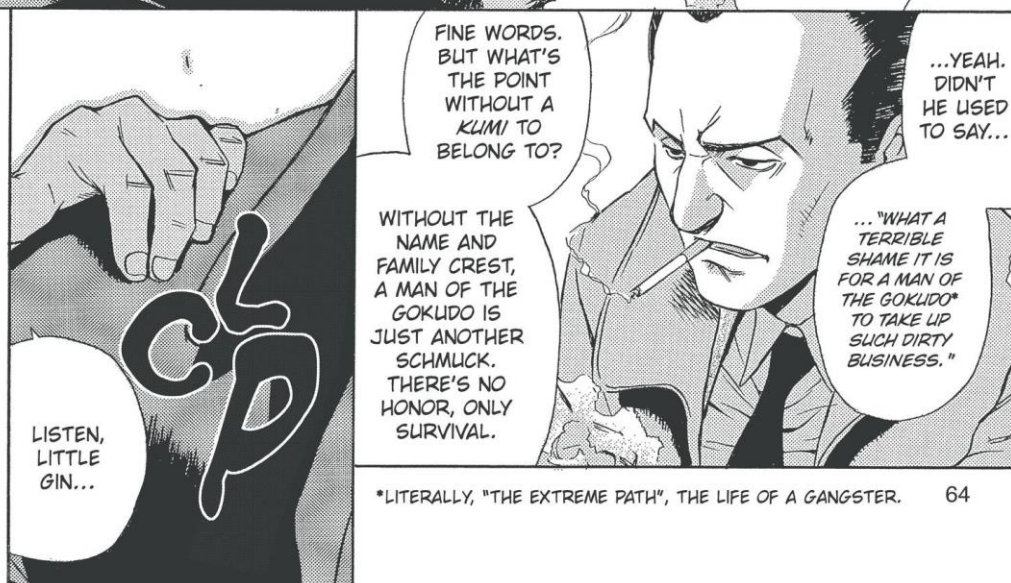
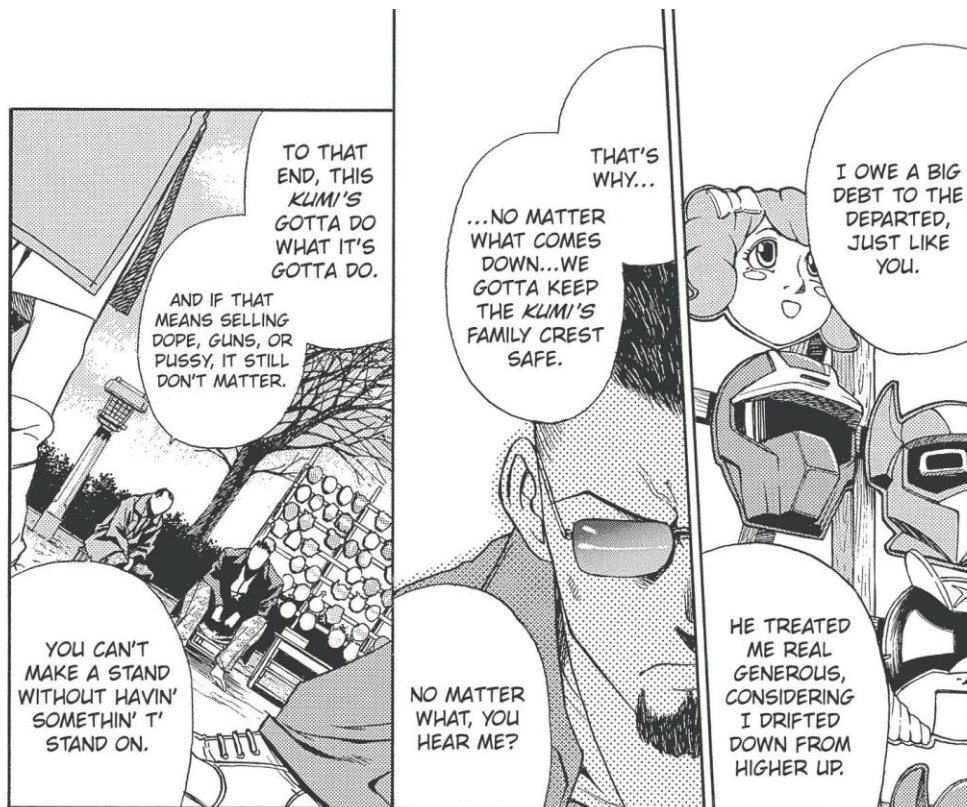


'STEAD THEY
KEEP PUSHIN'
TO PUT IN ONE
A' THEIRS
INSTEAD.

CAN'T
HOLD IT
OFF FOR
MUCH
LONGER.

THOSE
BASTARDS GET
A HARD-ON
JUST THINKIN'
ABOUT
CRUSHIN' US.

WE BEEN
WITHOUT AN
OYABUN* THREE
YEARS NOW. STILL
WON'T LET ANY OF
US STEP UP TO
THE POSITION.



*LITERALLY, "THE EXTREME PATH", THE LIFE OF A GANGSTER. 64



WORKIN' WITH
THE RUSSIANS TO
STRIKE AT OUR
HIGHER-UPS.

THAT'S
THE LOW-
DOWN.

RIGHT NOW,
I'M PUTTING
TOGETHER
ONE HELL OF
A SCORE.



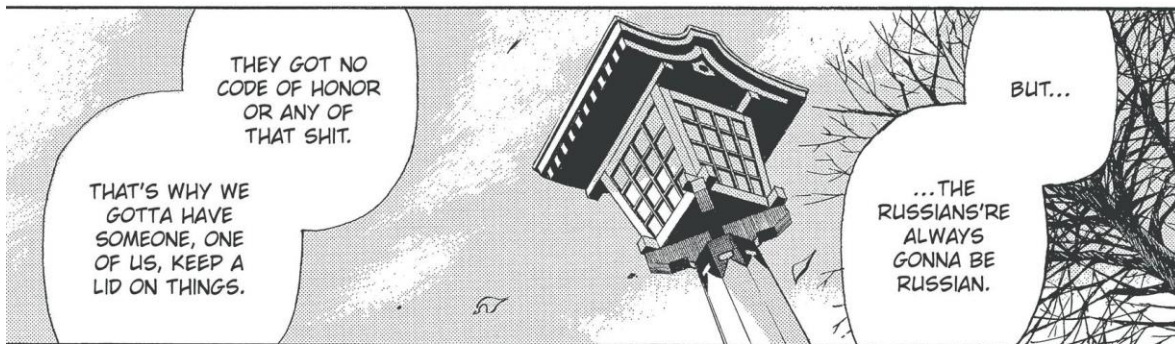
YOU
REALIZE
WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKIN'
ABOUT?

DID I JUST
HEAR WHAT
YOU SAID
RIGHT?

KASHIRA...

THOSE
FUCKERS
STARTED THIS,
WANTING
THEIR OWN
PEOPLE
RUBBED
OUT.

NO POINT
PULLIN' ANY
PUNCHES
NOW.

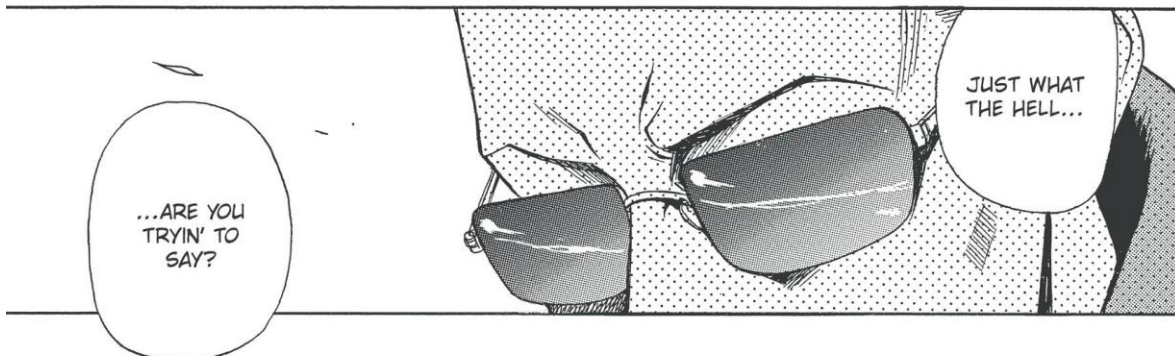


THEY GOT NO
CODE OF HONOR
OR ANY OF
THAT SHIT.

THAT'S WHY WE
GOTTA HAVE
SOMEONE, ONE
OF US, KEEP A
LID ON THINGS.

BUT...

...THE
RUSSIANS'RE
ALWAYS
GONNA BE
RUSSIAN.



...ARE YOU
TRYIN' TO
SAY?

JUST WHAT
THE HELL...



...I WANT
YOU...

...TO CARRY THE
SHIRASAYA*
ONCE AGAIN,
'AT'S WHAT.

ANY YAKUZA WITH
HALF A BRAIN
REMEMBERS THE
WAKE OF TERROR
LEFT BY...

...MANSLAYER
GINJI.

WHATTAYA
SAY...

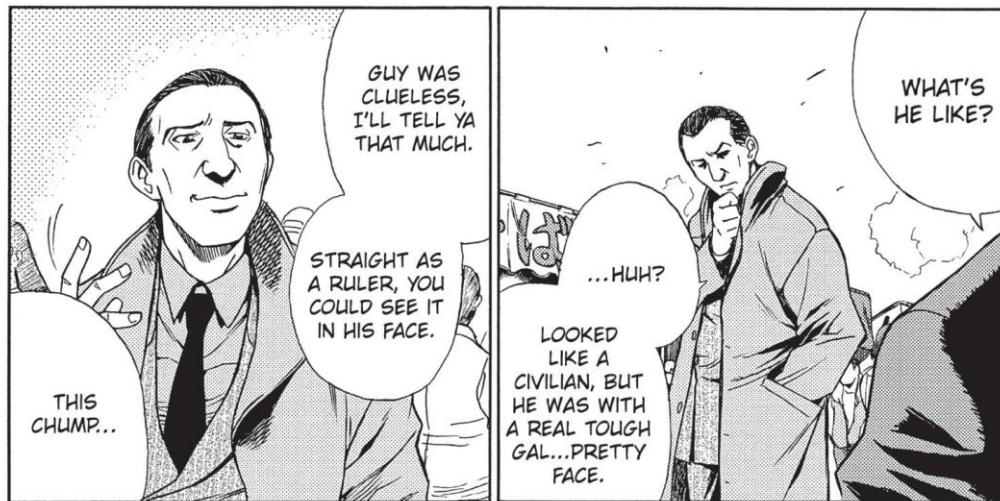
...YOU TAKE
UP THAT
TITLE AGAIN?

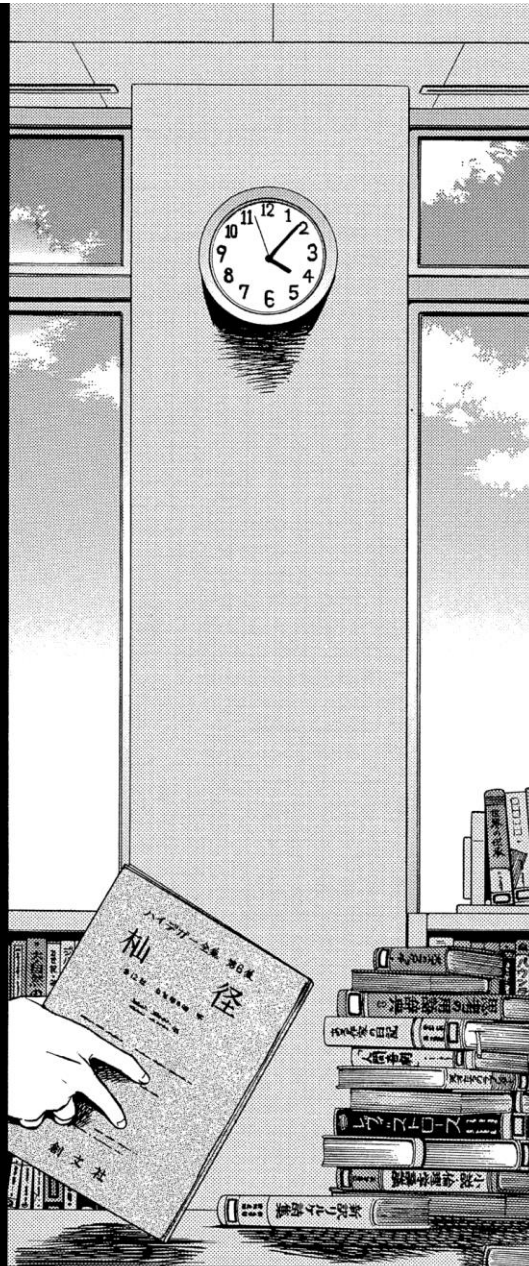
*LITERALLY "WHITE SCABBARD", A JAPANESE SWORD WITH A PLAIN WOODEN HANDLE AND SCABBARD.



* HONOR AND HUMANITY





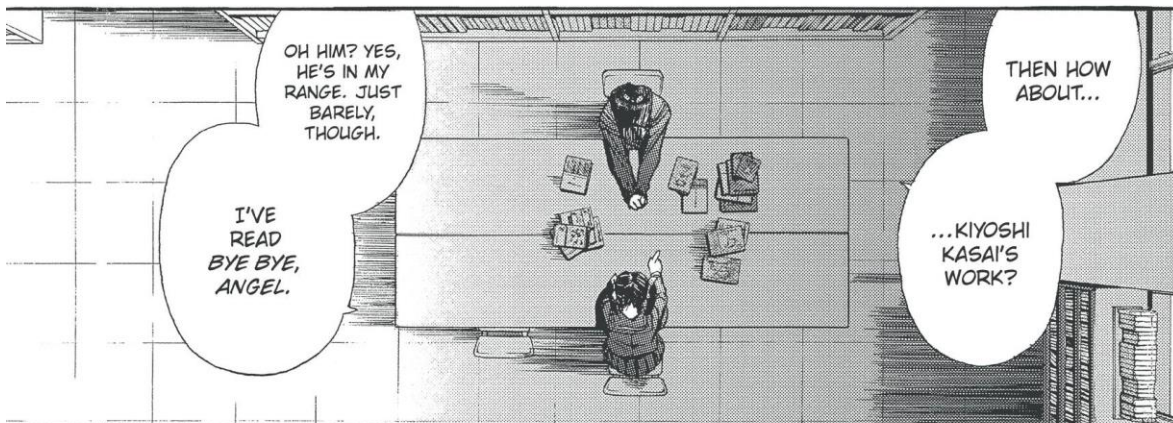
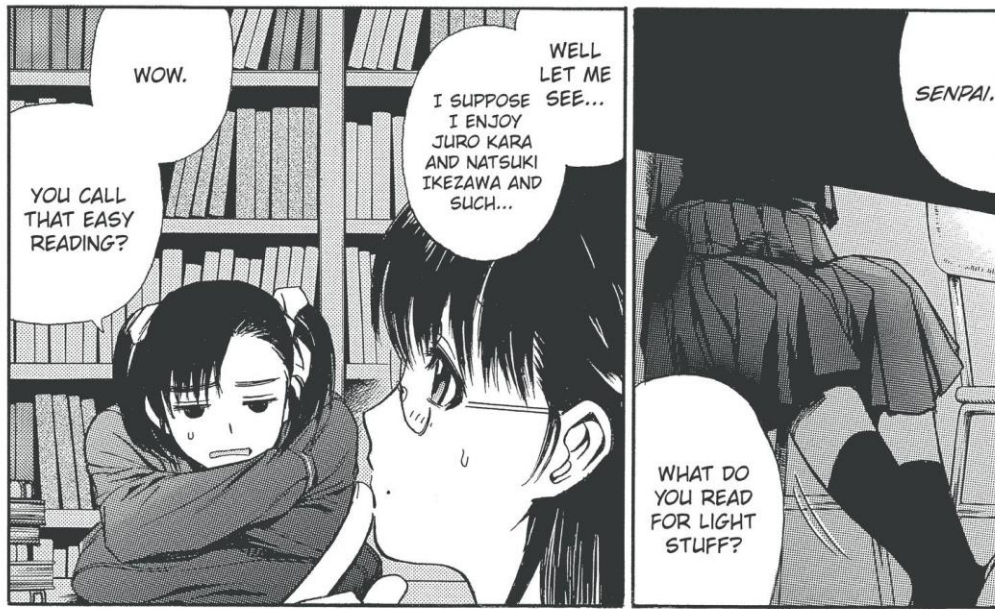


Chapter 24: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part III



*JAPANESE FORM OF ADDRESS FOR A SOCIAL SENIOR OR SUPERIOR







WHAT ABOUT MCCAMMON OR KING?

SENPAI, YOU DON'T GO FOR CONTEMPORARY HORROR STUFF?

I DON'T CARE MUCH FOR PHILOSOPHICAL MUMBO JUMBO. JUST AS LONG AS KAKERU IS CUTE, THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT.



I ENJOYED READING *SUMMER APOCALYPSE*.

IF YOU READ HUSSERL BEFOREHAND, YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON HIS WRITINGS WILL CHANGE DRAMATICALLY.



WELL...

...I'M NOT AT ALL INTO HORROR STORIES.



I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU'D ENJOY STUFF LIKE WHAT POE WROTE.

HUH?

REALLY? THAT'S SURPRISING.

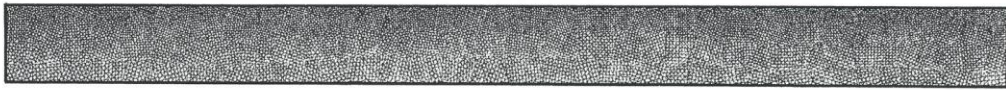


IT LEAVES ME FEELING TRAPPED...

...IN THE BLACKNESS AND THE LONESOMENESS...

I'M NOT INTO...

...ANYTHING THAT MAKES ME DWELL ON THE NIGHT AND THE DARK.







THE BIG BLUE
YONDER...



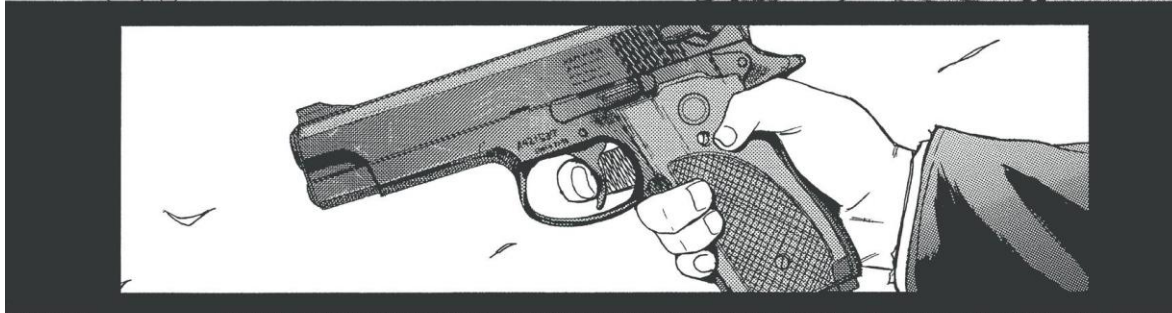
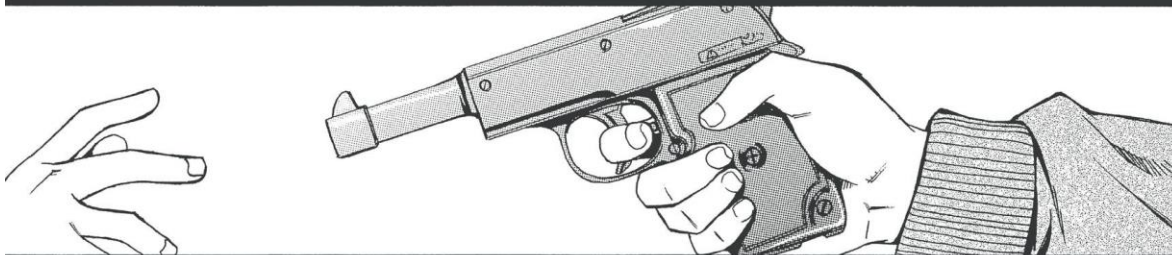
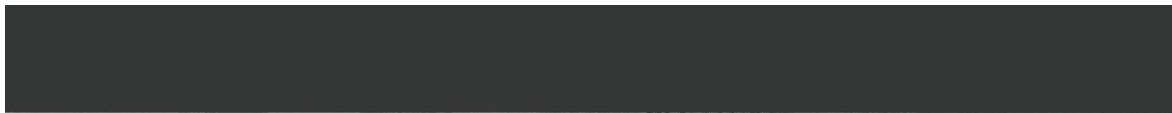
...LOOKS THE SAME
NO MATTER WHERE
YOU ARE.



WHETHER I'M
STANDING ON MOTT
AND CANAL...

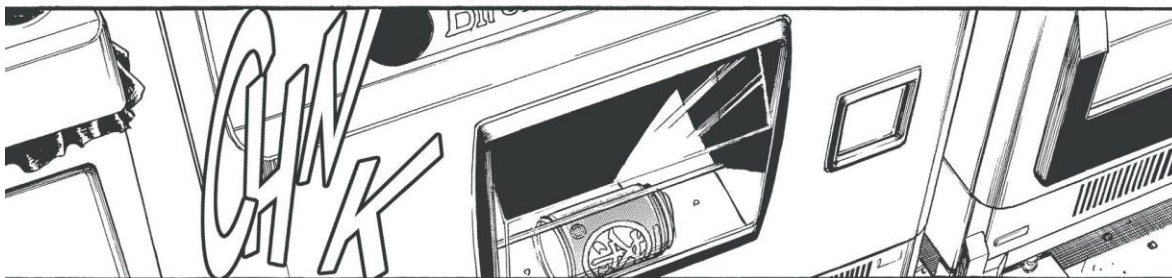


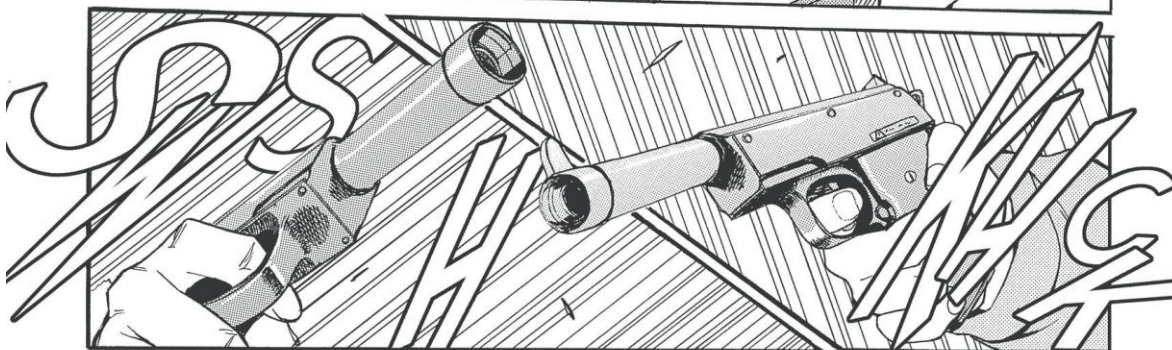
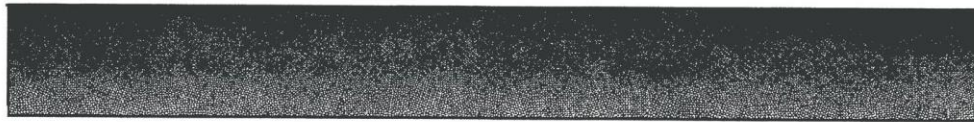
...OR SITTING
HERE IN TOKYO...



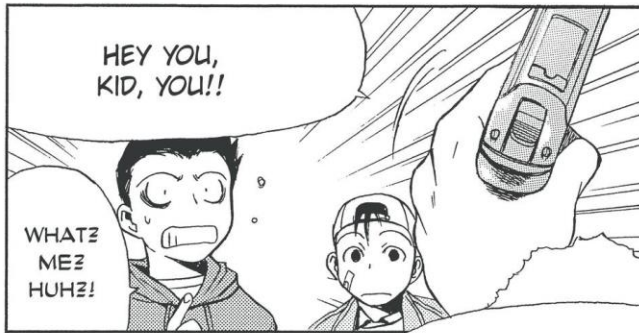












HEY YOU,
KID, YOU!!

WHAT?
ME?
HUH?!



I'LL
SHOW YOU.

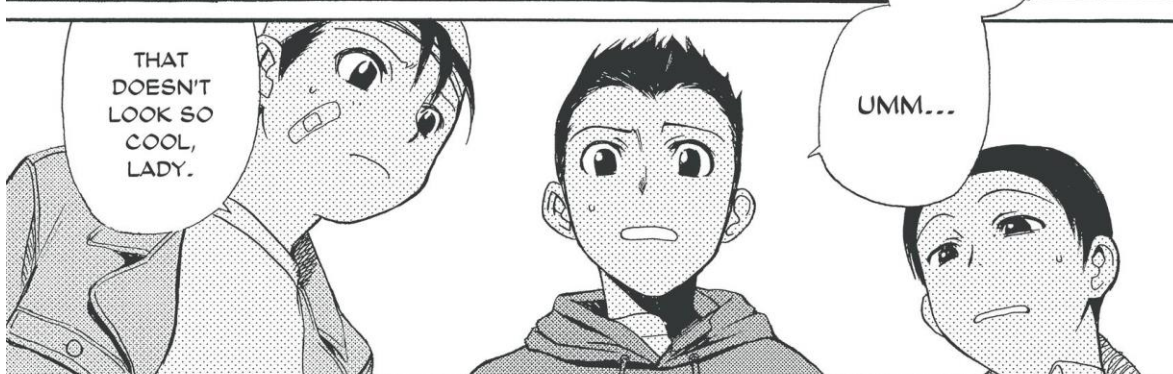
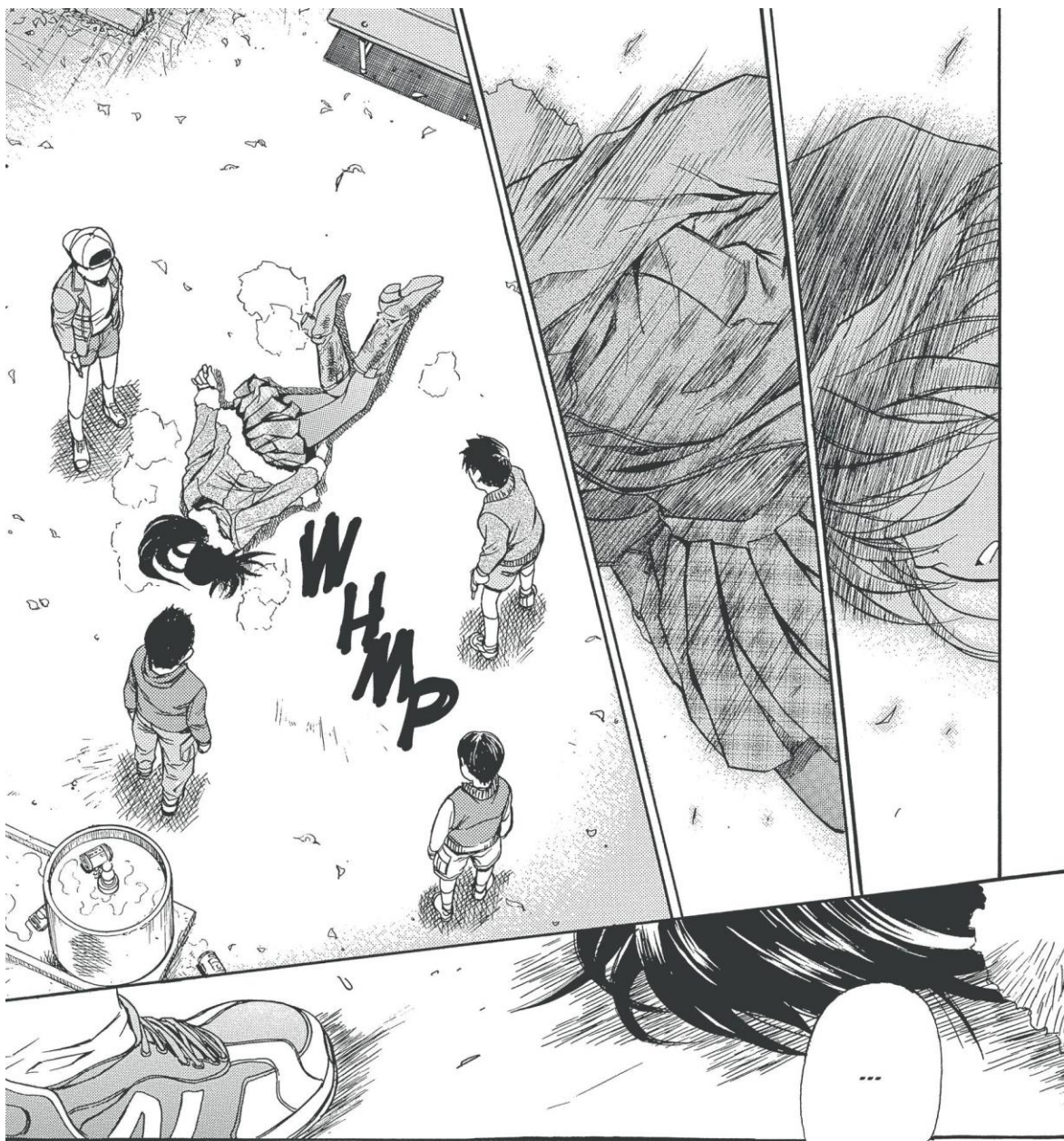
GUN ME
DOWN!



IT'S LIKE EVERY-
THING BELOW YOUR
KNEES GOES AWAY,
AND YOUR FEET
STUMBLE.

YOU JUST
DROP WITH YOUR HEAD
GOING FORWARD, FLAT
ON YOUR FACE. OKAY,
YOU GOT IT?









THE STORY'S
DIFFERENT FROM
THE ONE I KNOW.

CALAMITY JANE
DIDN'T DIE IN THAT
SALOON.



HEY
LADY...

CAN I
HAVE MY
GUN BACK?



YOU
LISTEN TO
ME, ROCK.

NOT A WORD OF
THIS TO DUTCH
OR BENNY, OR
ELSE I'LL CUT
YOUR BALLS OFF
AND STUFF 'EM
DOWN YOUR
THROAT!!

HEY,
OUCH.
STOP
IT!!



DAMNED
STRAIGHT.

FORGET IT.
IT NEVER
HAPPENED.

I WON'T
SAY A
WORD EVEN
IF THEY
TORTURE ME.

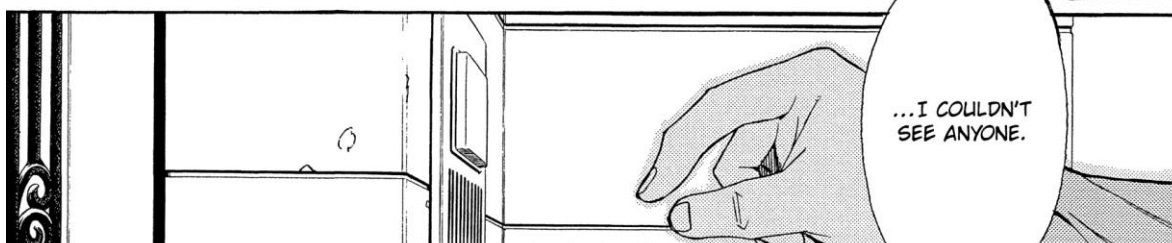
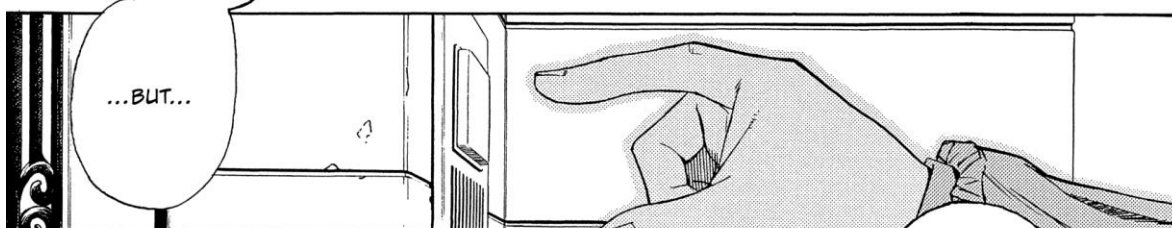
I WON'T
SAY ANY-
THING!

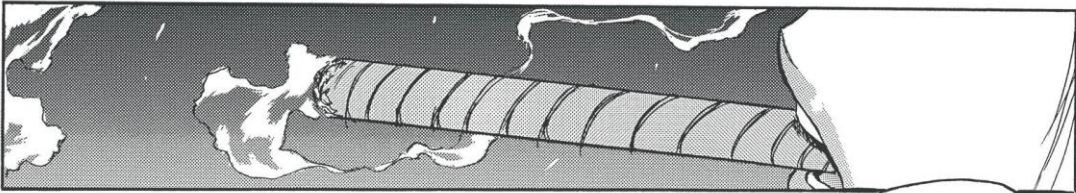
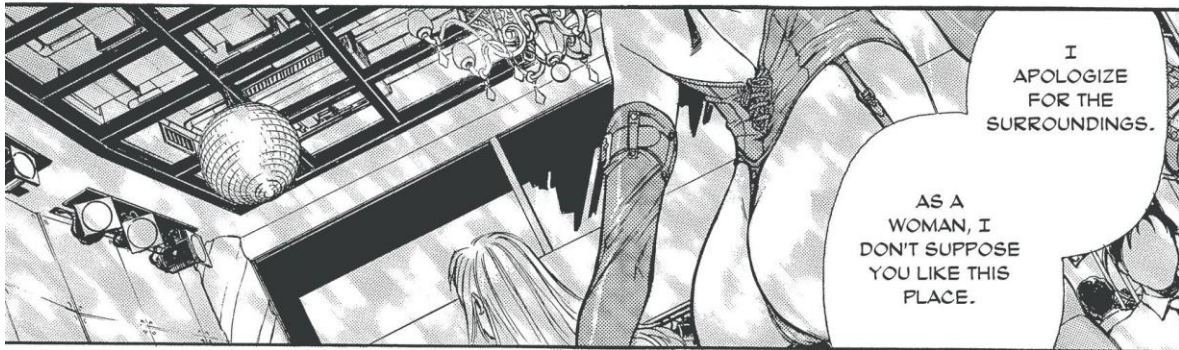
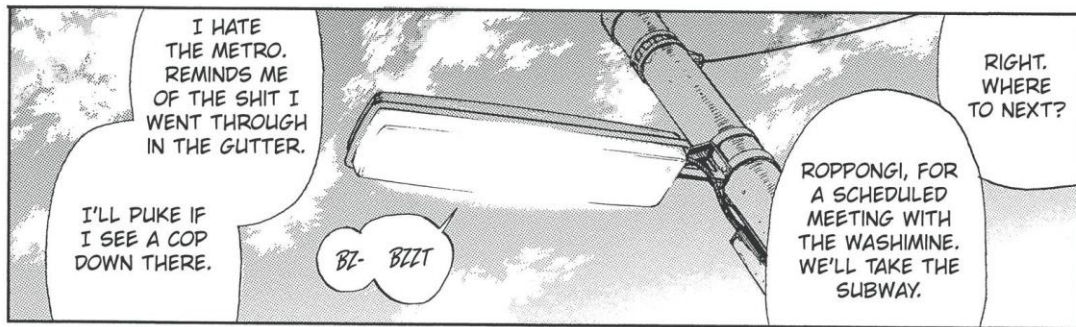


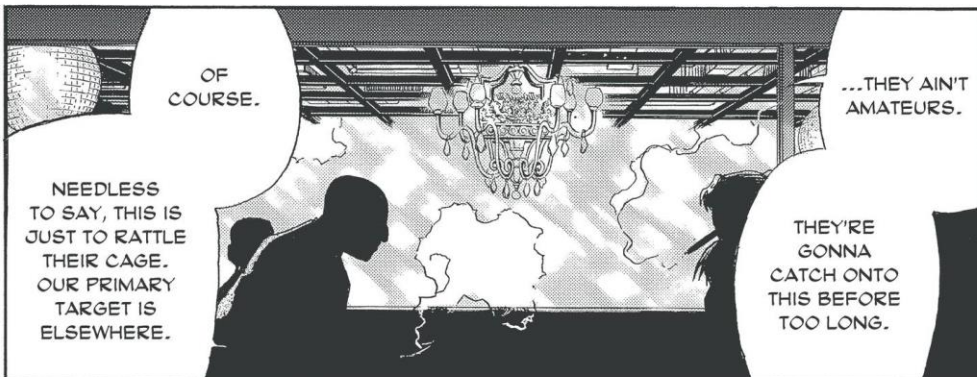
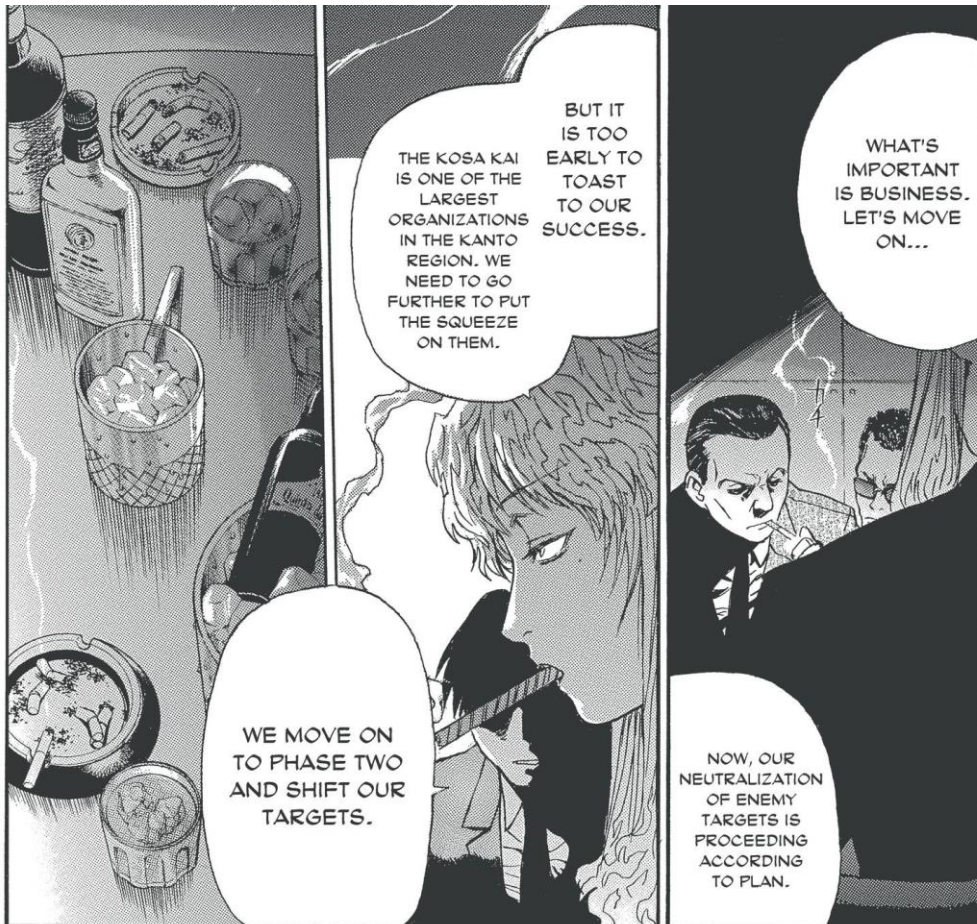
SO DID YOU
SEE YOUR
FOLKS OR
WHAT?

ANYWAY,
NONE OF
THIS MATTERS.
WHAT I WANNA
KNOW IS...

...WHAT
WENT DOWN
WITH YOU.









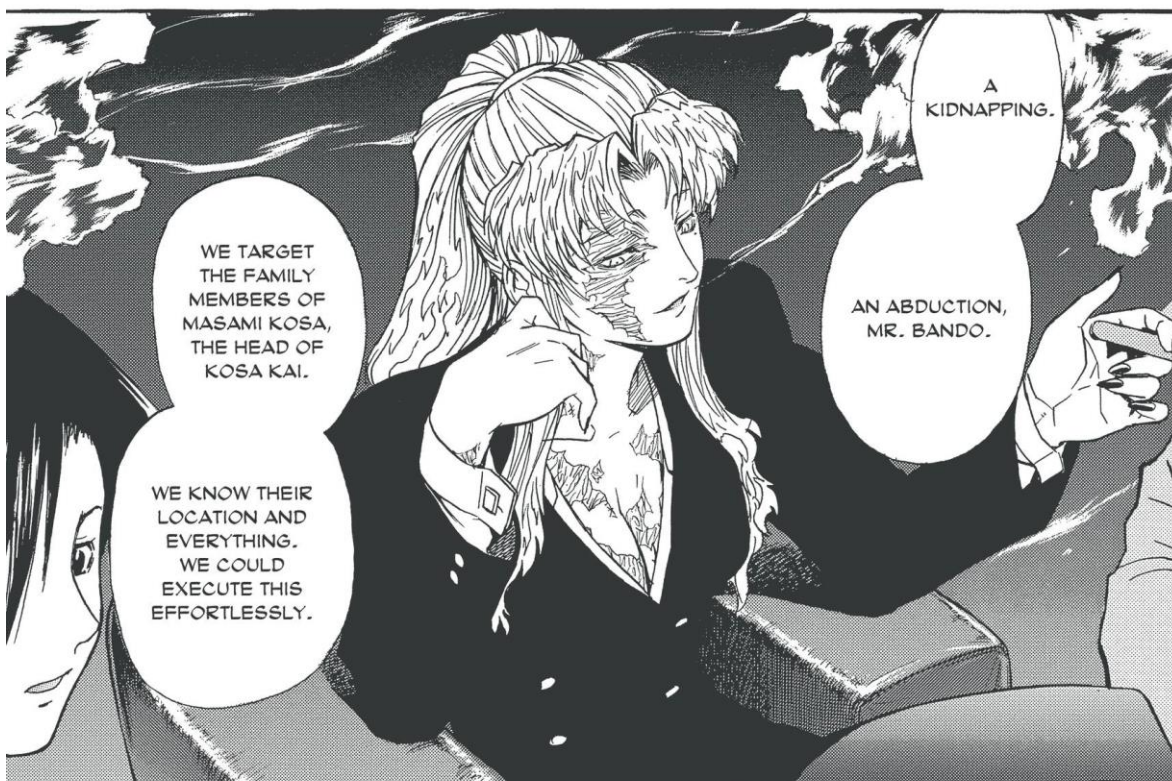
...WHAT'S
THE IDEA
HERE?

I DON'T
SEE WHERE
YOU'RE
GOIN' WITH
THIS.



WE EMPLOY A TACTIC THAT
WORKS IN ANY SITUATION IN
EVERY NATION.

DEPENDING ON THE
CIRCUMSTANCES, IT CAN
DRAMATICALLY RESOLVE
ANY AND ALL CONCERNS.



WE TARGET
THE FAMILY
MEMBERS OF
MASAMI KOSA,
THE HEAD OF
KOSA KAI.

WE KNOW THEIR
LOCATION AND
EVERYTHING.
WE COULD
EXECUTE THIS
EFFORTLESSLY.

A
KIDNAPPING.

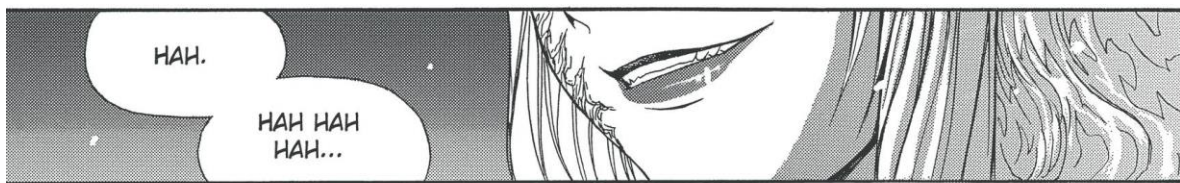
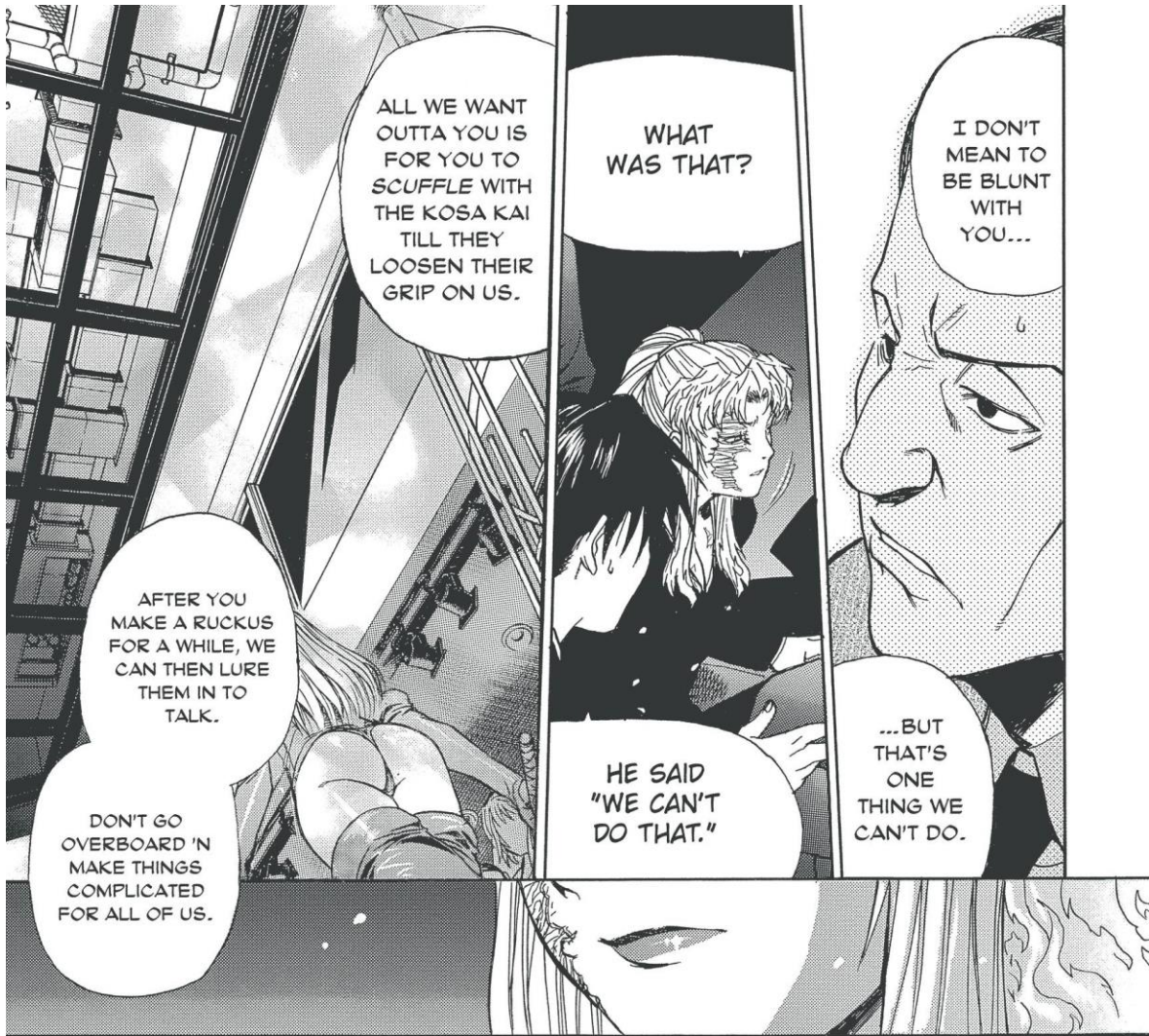
AN ABDUCTION,
MR. BANDO.



MS.
BALALAIIKA...

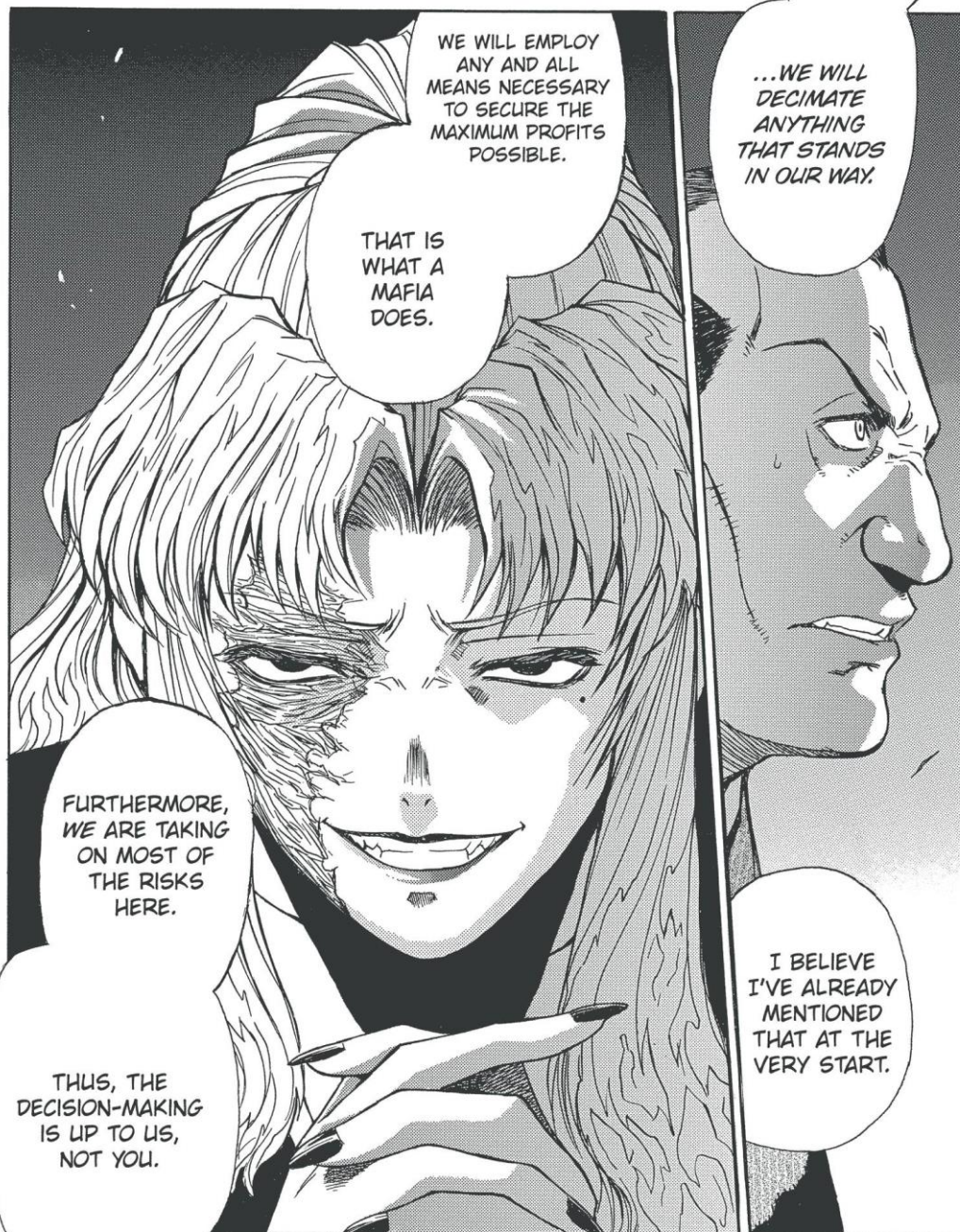
HGRK!

KASHIRA,
SIR—?!





MR.
BANDO...



WE WILL EMPLOY
ANY AND ALL
MEANS NECESSARY
TO SECURE THE
MAXIMUM PROFITS
POSSIBLE.

THAT IS
WHAT A
MAFIA
DOES.

FURTHERMORE,
WE ARE TAKING
ON MOST OF
THE RISKS
HERE.

THUS, THE
DECISION-MAKING
IS UP TO US,
NOT YOU.

...WE WILL
DECIMATE
ANYTHING
THAT STANDS
IN OUR WAY.

I BELIEVE
I'VE ALREADY
MENTIONED
THAT AT THE
VERY START.



Chapter 25: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part IV

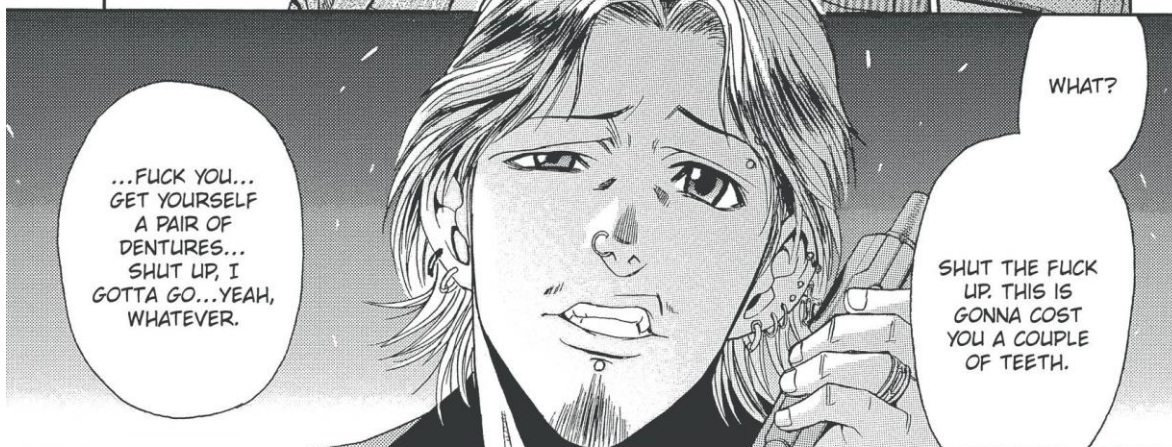




SHIT, DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO FUCKIN' CALL ME AROUND THIS TIME?

WHAT THE FUCK, RUMI...

...PRADA? NOT INTERESTED. I GOT ENOUGH TO START A STORE. IF IT'S A NEW ONE, YOU CAN GIVE IT TO ME.



...FUCK YOU...
GET YOURSELF
A PAIR OF
DENTURES...
SHUT UP, I
GOTTA GO...YEAH,
WHATEVER.

WHAT?

SHUT THE FUCK
UP. THIS IS
GONNA COST
YOU A COUPLE
OF TEETH.



HEH
HEH
HEH

I TOLD THAT
STUPID BITCH
DON'T GO
CALLIN' ME
RIGHT NOW.
HONEST, SIR.

OH,
UH...

I'M
SORRY,
SIR.

PIP



CHAKA,
YOU PUNK!

THE FUCK
YOU THINK
YOU'RE DOIN',
MORON?



YOSHIDA!

ENOUGH.

GET THE
FUCK
OUT OF
HERE!

SHIT-
FOR-
BRAINS!

CAN'T YOU
SEE WE GOT
IMPORTANT
BUSINESS
HERE,
ASSHOLE?!



CAN YOU
GIVE US A
LITTLE TIME
TO MULL IT
OVER?

WE NEED TO
TALK THIS
OUT AMONG
OURSELVES,
IF YOU DON'T
MIND.

NOW
REGARD-
ING WHAT
YOU JUST
SAID...

...EXCUSE
US FOR
THAT
OUTBURST.



I LOOK
FORWARD TO
TOASTING OUR
SUCCESS.

OF
COURSE.

AS LONG AS
IT DOES NOT
THREATEN
THE INTEGRITY
OF OUR
OPERATIONAL
PLANS.



HEY, MR. TAKA.

THAT GAL OVER THERE. WHAT'S UP WITH HER?

WHAT?



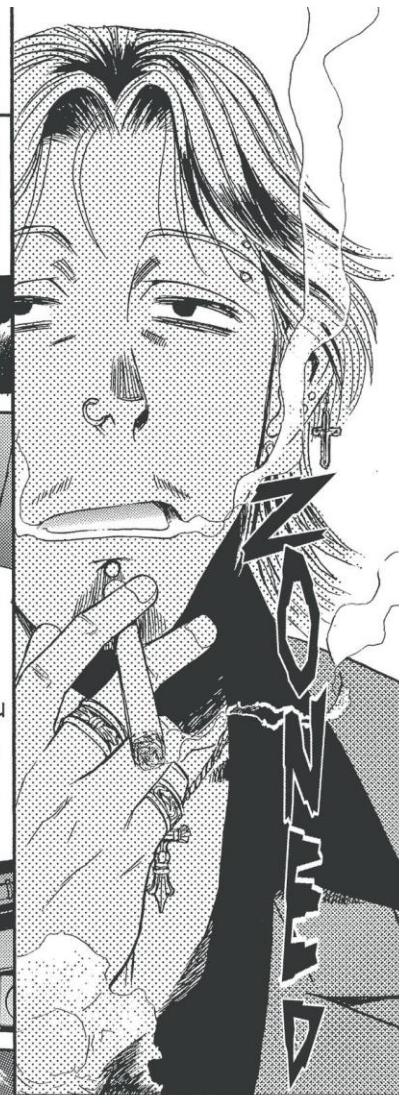
CHAKA, YOU IDIOT. HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED ANYTHING?



NO, NO...

...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, HONEST.

FUJISHIMA IS IN THE SLAMMER THANKS TO YOU FUCKING AROUND, YOU ASSHOLE.



SHE'S A GUNMAN?! REALLY?! WHOA!!

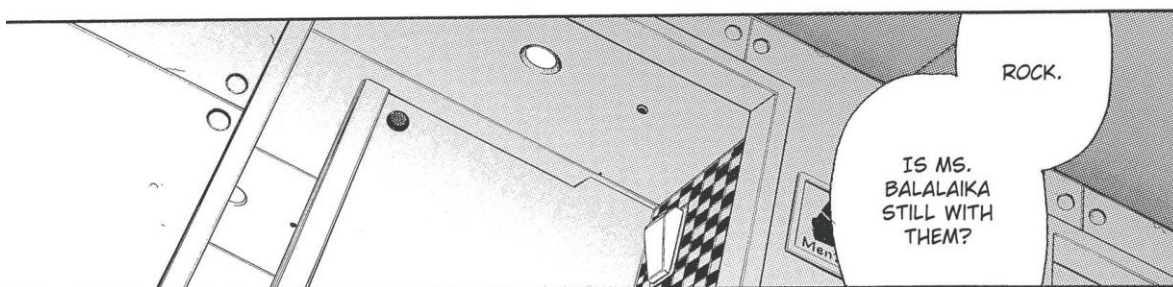
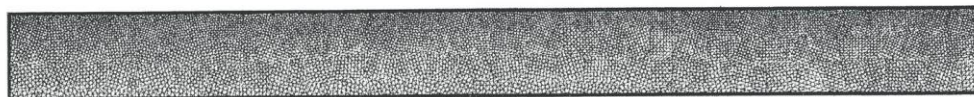
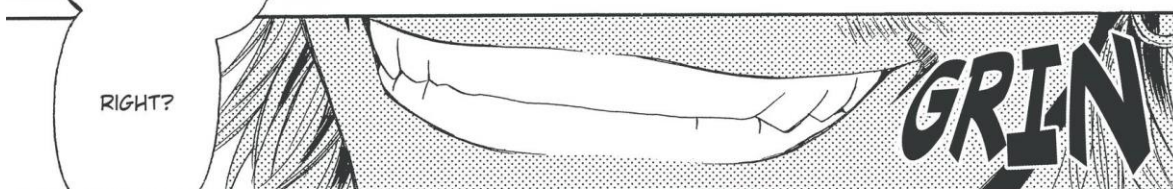
NO SHIT!

CHAKA YOU LITTLE PUNK. KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN, YOU FUCK.



SHE'S THAT DIMWIT INTERPRETER'S BODYGUARD.

I THINK SOMEONE SAID SHE CAME ALONG WITH THE RUSSIAN FROM ROANAPUR.







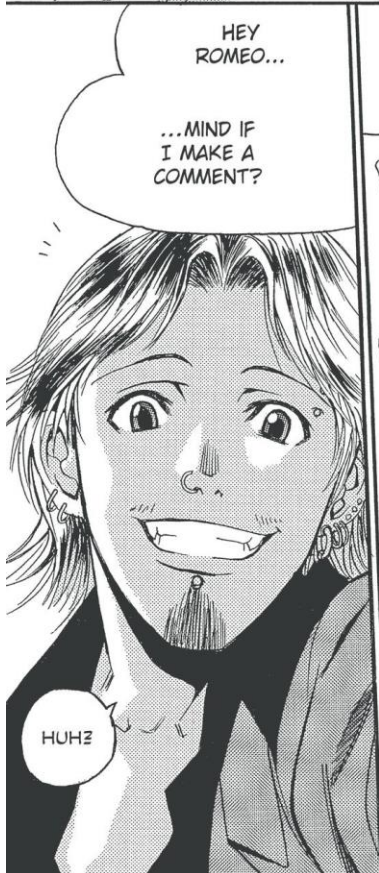
...YOU'RE A
GUNMAN, HUH?

SOMEBODY
TOLD ME...



...I DON'T SPEAK NO
STINKIN' JAPANESE.

SPEAK
ENGLISH.



HEY
ROMEO...

...MIND IF
I MAKE A
COMMENT?

HUH?



HEY CUTIE, YOU
FROM ROANAPUR,
RIGHT?

RUMOR HAS IT THAT
TOWN'S GOT MORE
BADASS MOTHERFUCKERS
RUNNING AROUND THAN
ANY PRISON.

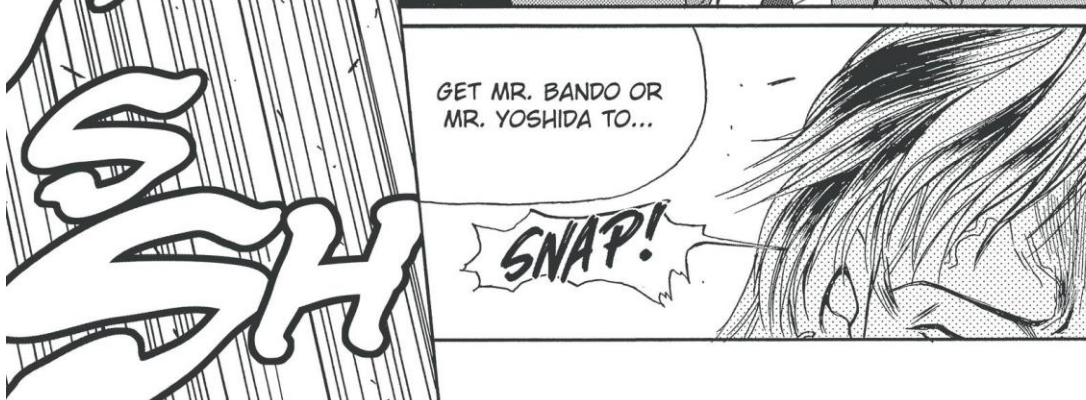
EVER SHOT SOMEONE?
I HAVE. I'VE CAPPED
ABOUT TEN GUYS...



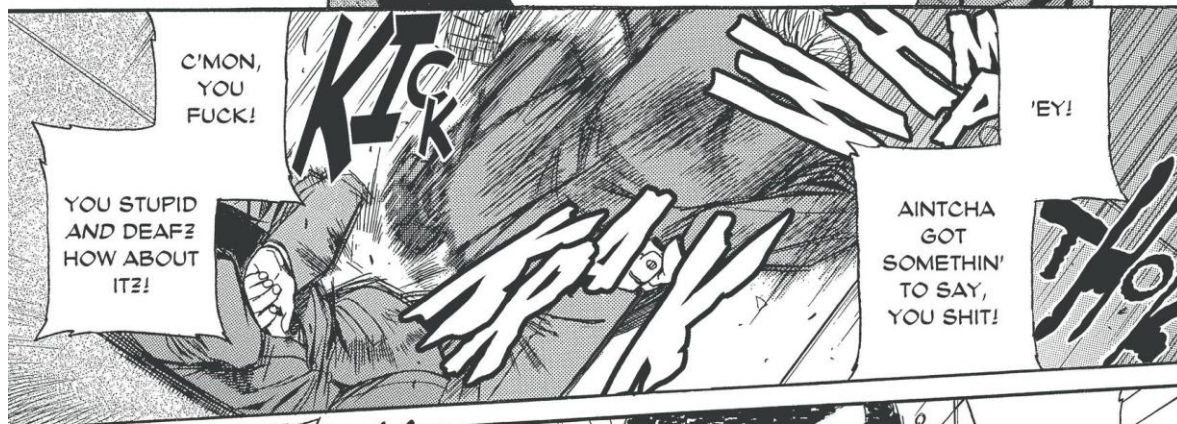
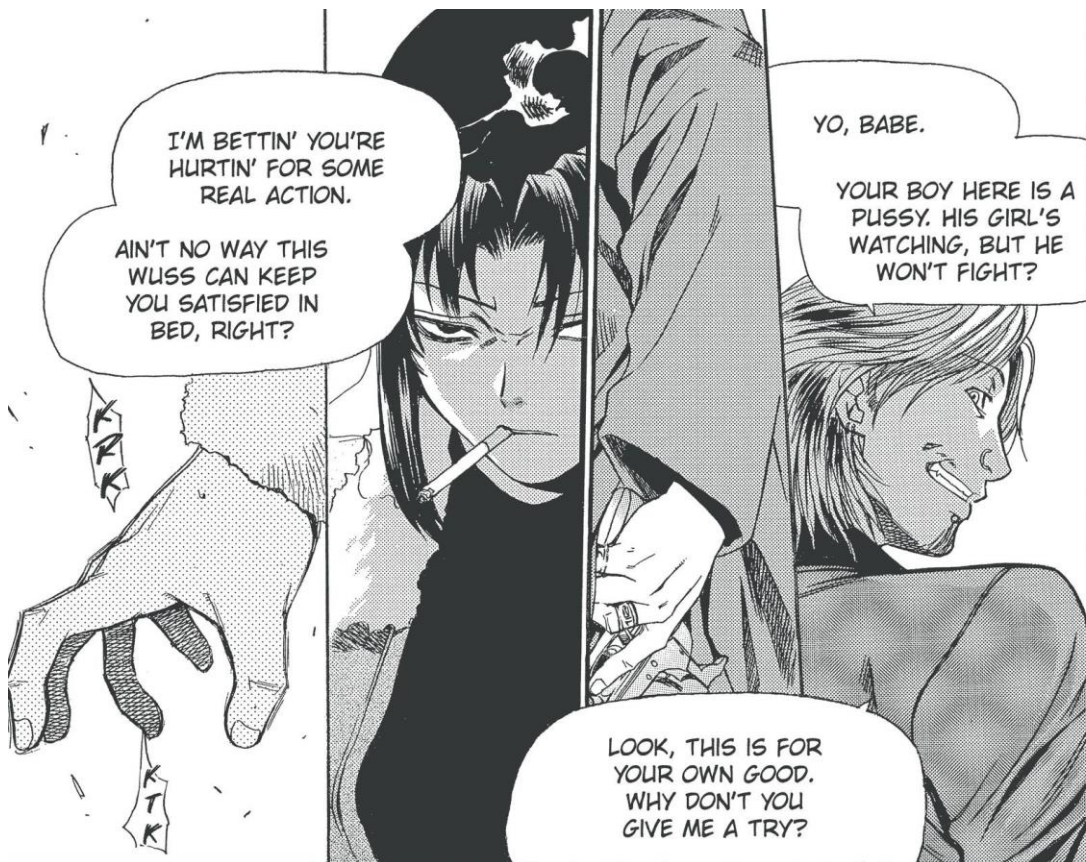
! OH RIGHT.
IS THIS
BETTER?

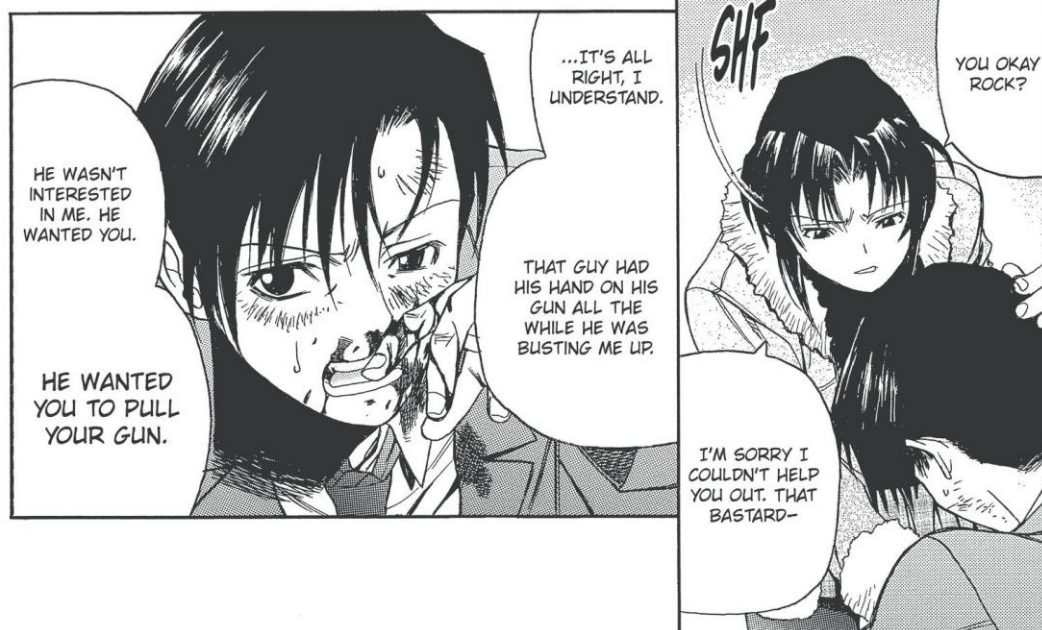
I RUN THIS JOINT.
CAN'T GET BY WITHOUT
SPEAKING ENGLISH IN
A PLACE LIKE THIS.













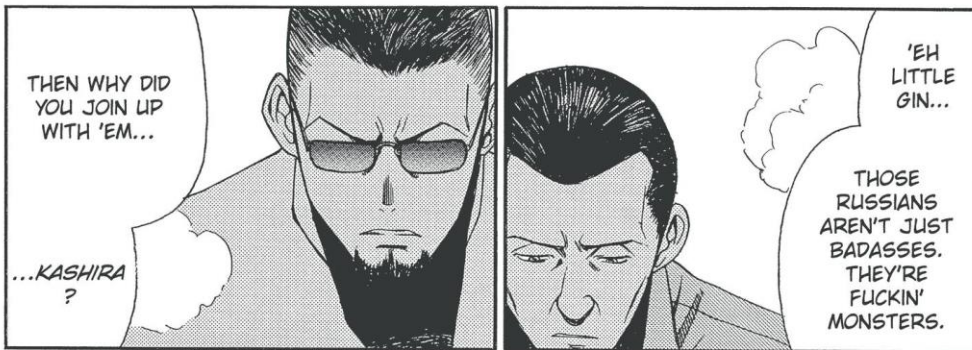




HERE
YA GO.

CAN
YA...

...HAND
ME THE
MISO?



THEN WHY DID
YOU JOIN UP
WITH 'EM...

...KASHIRA
?

'EH
LITTLE
GIN...

THOSE
RUSSIANS
AREN'T JUST
BADASSES.
THEY'RE
FUCKIN'
MONSTERS.



YOU CAN'T
TRUST
OUTSIDERS.

YOU KNOW
THAT AS
WELL AS
ANYONE.

'CAUSE WE
NEEDED A
STRONG ARM
TO MUZZLE THE
KOSA KAI.

THIS WOULD'A'
GONE AGAINST
THE MEDIATION
COUNCIL'S
DECISIONS,
BUT...



WHILE THE KOSA
KAI GOT THEIR
HEARTS SET ON
'GRABBIN' ALL
OUR RACKETS?

THE TURF
AND THE
PEOPLE WE
WORKED SO
HARD TO
CEMENT.

...HMM...

THEN I
SUPPOSE WE
SHOULD SIT
TIGHT AND
RIDE OUT THE
STORM?

...I FIGURED WE'D
SHAKE THINGS UP
WITH THOSE
RUSSIANS. THEN
WE'D PATCH IT ALL
UP WITH MONEY.
OR THAT WAS THE
IDEA, ANYWAY.



...KASHIRA...

PASS ME
THE MIRIN.



AND THEN
THERE'S THE
SYNDICATE OF ALL
THE FAMILIES AND
ORGANIZATIONS IN
THE KANHASSHU*
REGION...

THERE AIN'T
NO YAKUZA
THAT'D TAKE
ON ODDS
LIKE THIS.

HONESTLY...
THINGS
DON'T LOOK
GOOD.

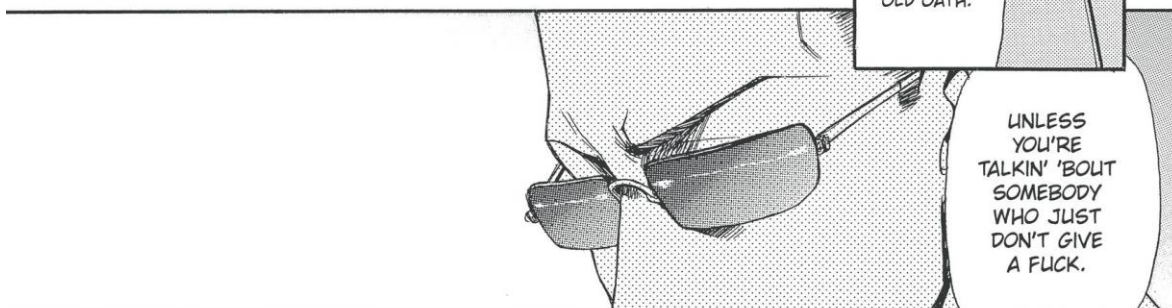
EVEN IF WE
COULD CRUSH
THE KOSA KAI,
THERE'S THE
KANTO
MEDIATION
COUNCIL
ABOVE 'EM.



AT THE
SUCCESSION
CEREMONY I
ATTENDED
FOR THE NEW
KOSA KAI
HEAD...

...IT WAS
ALL TOO
FUCKIN'
CLEAR.

THEY DON'T
GIVE A SHIT
ABOUT THE
OLD OATH.

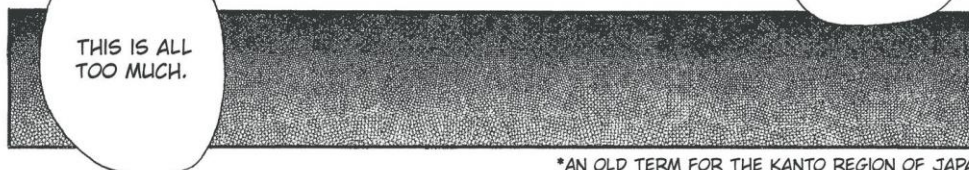


UNLESS
YOU'RE
TALKIN' 'BOUT
SOMEBODY
WHO JUST
DON'T GIVE
A FUCK.



YEAH...

...LIKE THEM
RUSSIANS.



THIS IS ALL
TOO MUCH.

*AN OLD TERM FOR THE KANTO REGION OF JAPAN

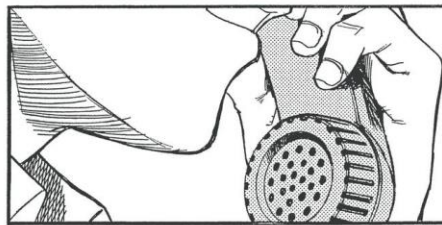


BENNY, IS THAT YOU?

I GOT MOST OF THE STUFF YOU ASKED FOR. ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT ME TO PICK UP?

THANKS ROCK. I MEAN IT.

I REALLY DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING TO THE BLACK MARKETS IN BANGKOK FOR THAT KIND OF STUFF.



SHE SAYS FOR YOU TO SEND THE "SWORD AND CUTLASS."



WHAT'S GOING ON?

IS THERE A STORM BREWING?

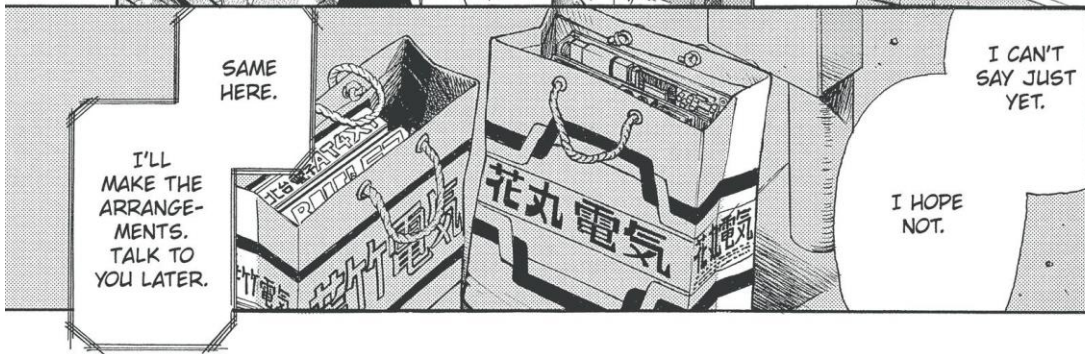
PASS THEM TO THE BOUGAINVILLEA PEOPLE AND THEY'LL GET THEM HERE THOUGH THE LEATHERNECK EXPRESS.



SAY BENNY...

...REVVY ASKED ME FOR SOMETHING FROM YOU.

WHAT'S UP?



SAME HERE.

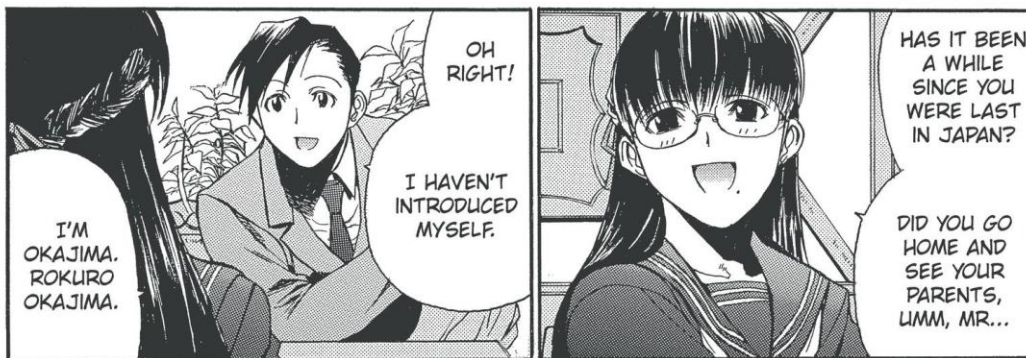
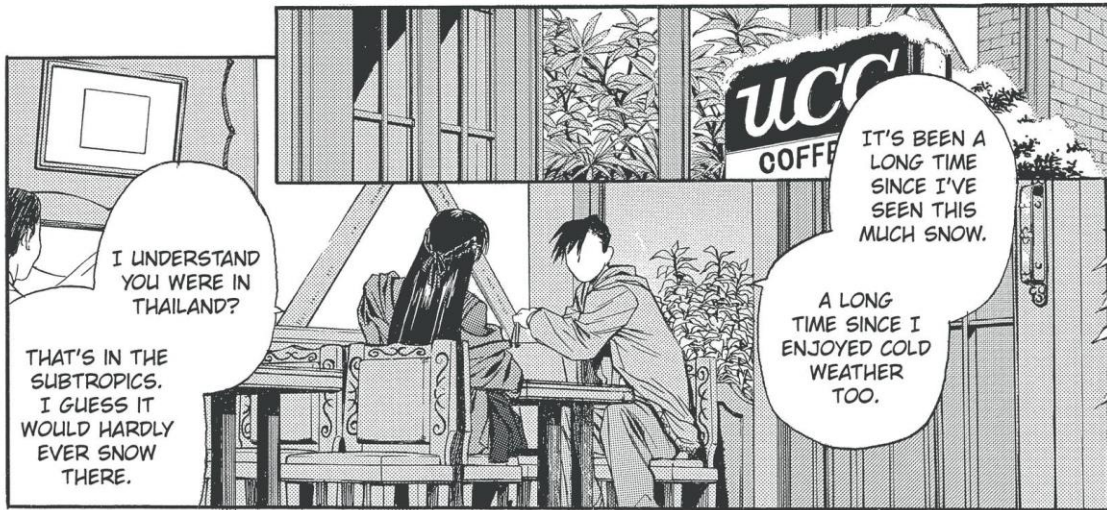
I'LL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS. TALK TO YOU LATER.

I CAN'T SAY JUST YET.

I HOPE NOT.

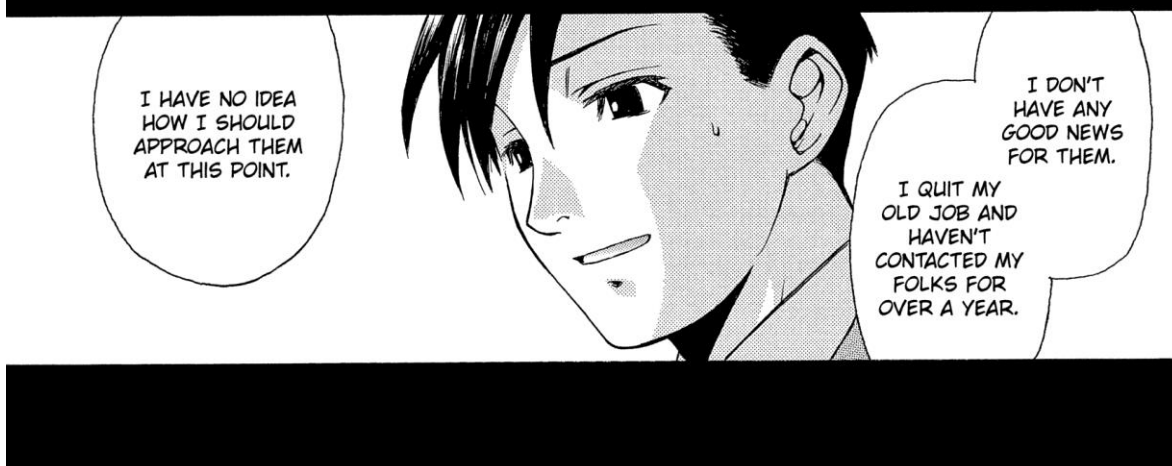


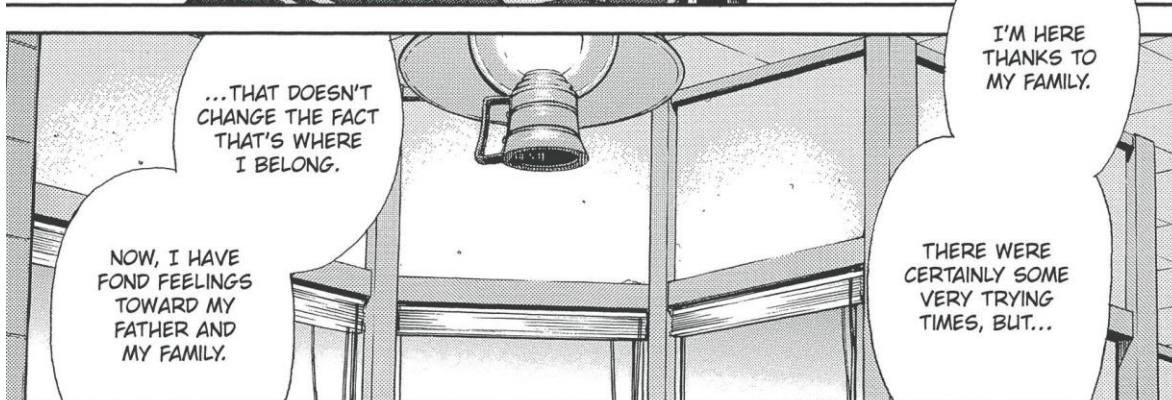


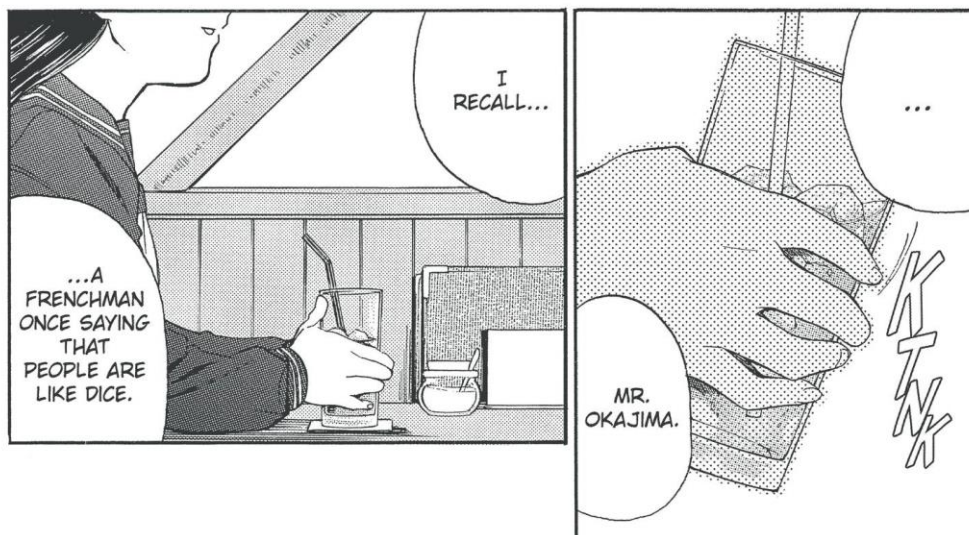


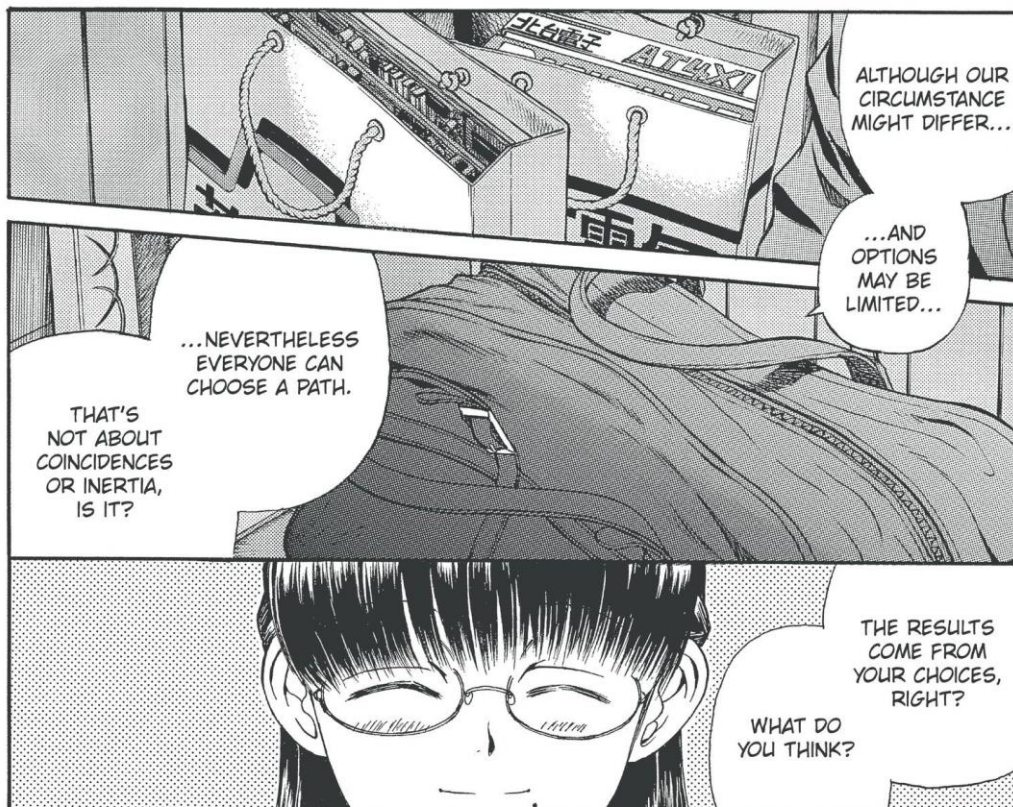


Chapter 26: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part V











I'LL HEAD BACK HOME AS SOON AS THE TRAINS START MOVING AGAIN. I'M WAITING OUT THE SNOW WITH MR. OKAJIMA.

...YES I KNOW.

OH, MR. GIN. YOU WORRY TOO MUCH.



HI, YUKIO HERE.

OH, MR. GIN.



IS SOMETHING WRONG?

YOU REMEMBER ...

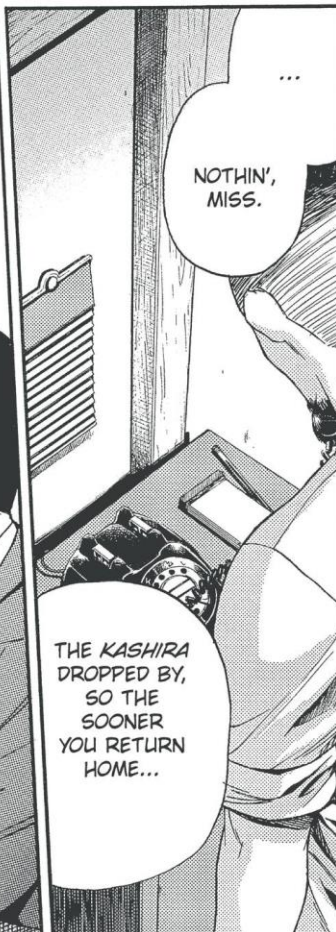
WE MET HIM AT THE LAST TAKAMACHI... YES, HIM.



MR. BANDO IS THERE? OH DEAR.

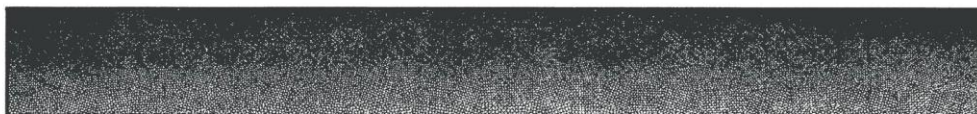
THEN I SHOULD HURRY HOME.

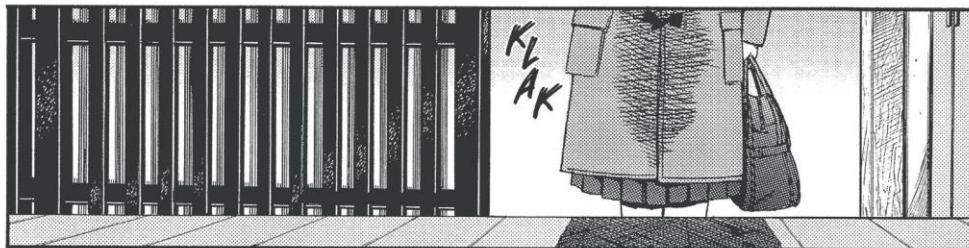
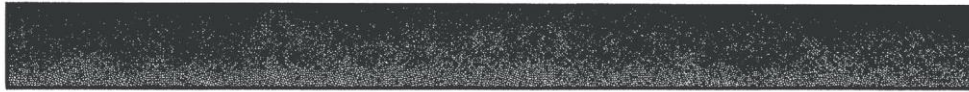
YES, I UNDERSTAND. I'LL BE HOME SHORTLY.... YES, I WILL.



NOTHIN', MISS.

THE KASHIRA DROPPED BY, SO THE SOONER YOU RETURN HOME...







MISS YUKIO.

I'M SORRY
FOR NOT
BEING MORE
ALERT.
PLEASE
EXCUSE ME.

MISS YUKIO!

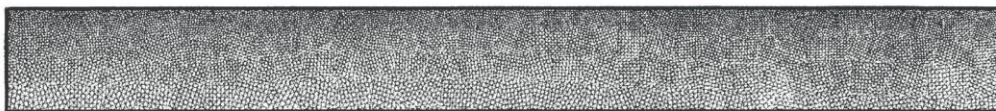
I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
WERE BACK.



...ABOUT THE
CONVERSATION
YOU WERE
HAVING JUST
NOW. WOULD
YOU MIND?

MR.
BANDO.

PLEASE
TELL ME
MORE...



THIS IS A
WASTE OF
TIME. ANY
OTHER
DEVELOP-
MENTS?

ANY WORD
FROM THE
WASHIMINE
GUMI?

NO SIR. IT
SEEMS THEY
ARE STILL
"IN DISCUSSION."





NOTHING
REALLY.



ROCK.

EXACTLY.



C'MON
MA'AM.

BEST YOU
BE MINDFUL
OF WHERE
YOU STAND,
RIGHT?



HE WANTS
TO KNOW.
GO AHEAD
AN' TELL HIM.

DON'T CUT
HIM OFF
LIKE THAT.

IT'S NOT
AS IF IT'S A
BIG SECRET
OR SOMETHIN'.

WHAT
DOES
THAT
HAVE TO
DO WITH
YOU?



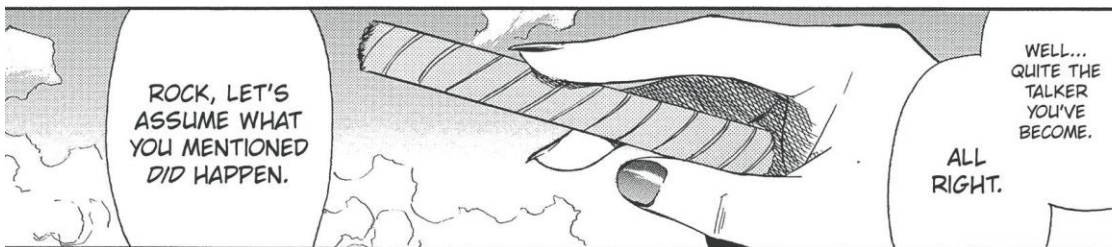
YEAH, I
KNOW, BUT
AREN'T WE
SUPPOSED TO
BE TIGHT
WITH ROCK?

MAINTAINING
TRUST IS
IMPORTANT
TOO, YOU
KNOW.



WHY ARE
YOU GOING
OUT ON A
LIMB FOR
HIM ALL OF
A SUDDEN,
TWO HAND?

"SILENCE IS
GOLDEN"?

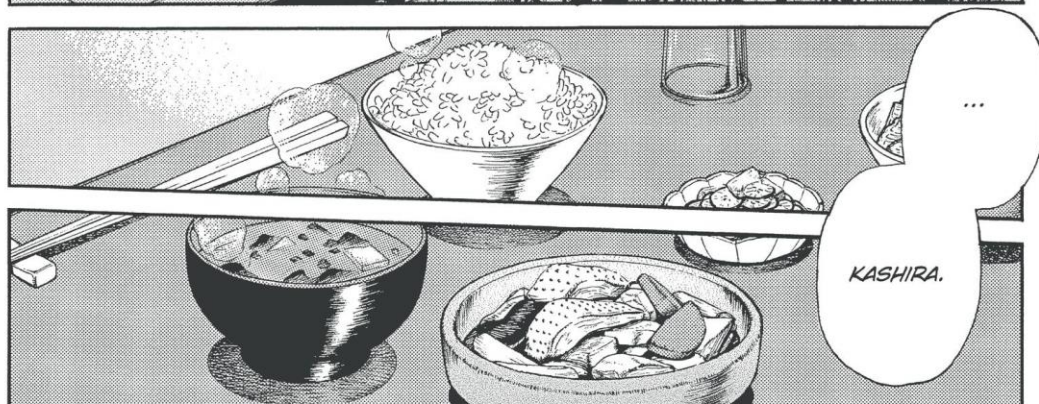
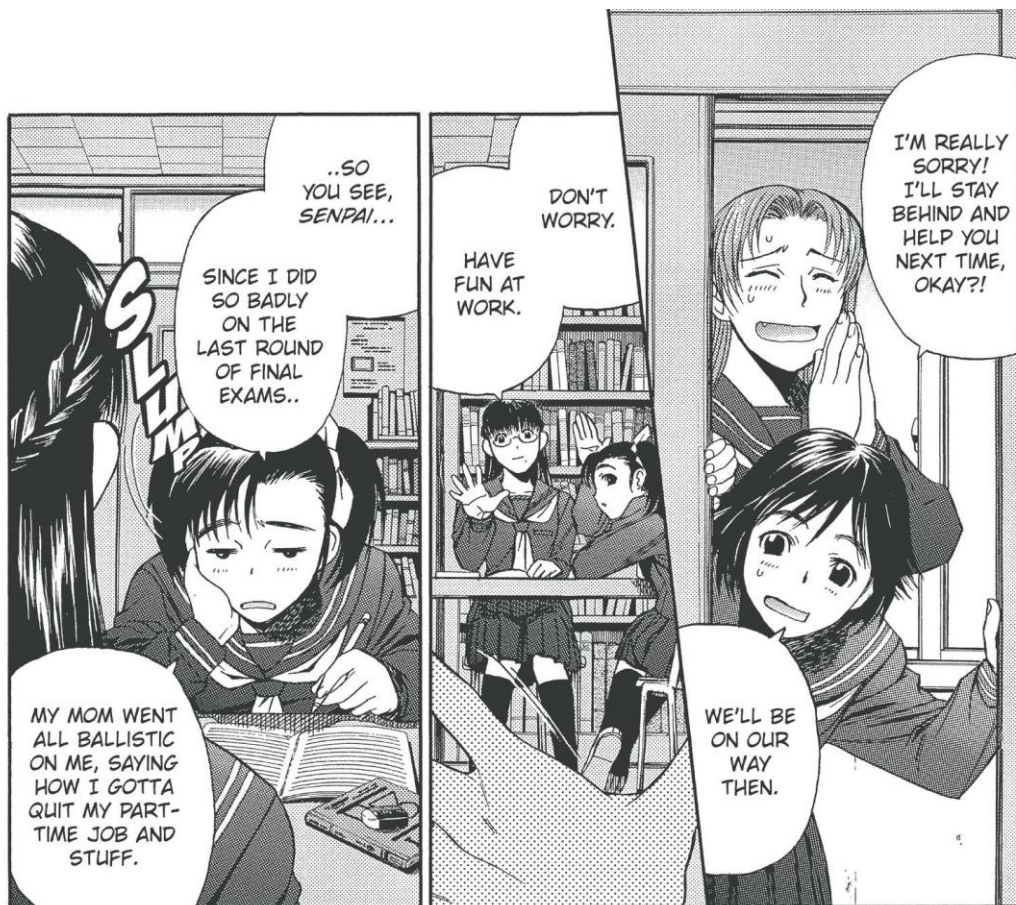


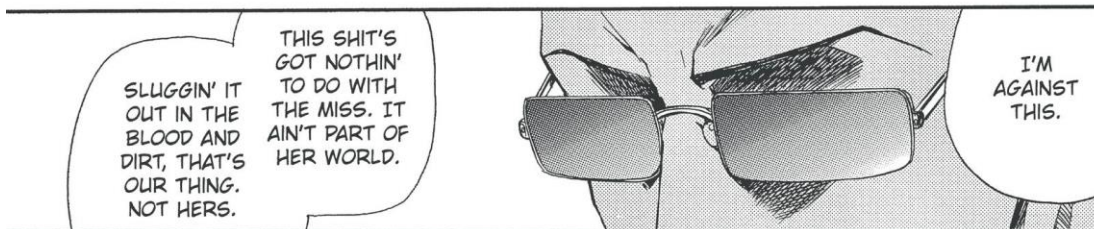
ROCK, LET'S
ASSUME WHAT
YOU MENTIONED
DID HAPPEN.

WELL...
QUITE THE
TALKER
YOU'VE
BECOME.

ALL
RIGHT.











NOW,
MISS...

THAT OKAJIMA
GUY YOU SAID
YOU MET.



SO I REALIZE
I'M OUT OF
LINE HERE TO
ASK THIS
BUT...

HE'S A PART
OF ALL THIS.

HE WORKS FOR
THE RUSSIANS.
HE'S IN WITH
THEM.



THEY USE
THAT OATH
AGAINST
US, AN'
LOWER OUR
STANDING.

SLOWLY
STRANGLIN'
US...BIT
BY BIT.

NOW
HONESTLY,
I'M AT A LOSS
FOR WHAT TO
DO AT THIS
POINT, MISS.



AT LEAST NOT
WITHOUT ME
AROUND.

...PLEASE,
DON'T GO OUT
SEEN' HIM.

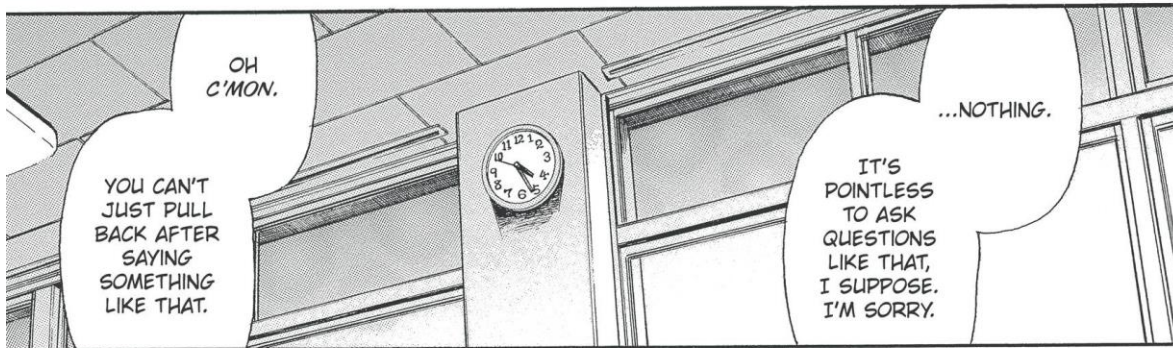


OH
DEAR.

I'M...I'M
SORRY,
MAKI.

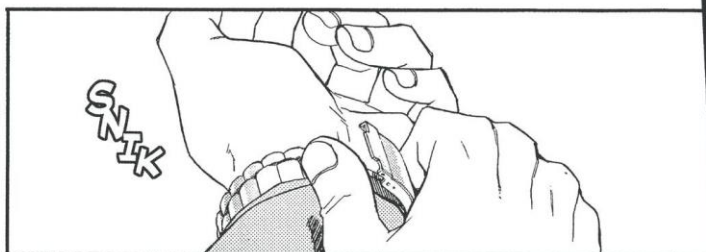
...SENPAI?

ARE YOU
LISTENING
TO A WORD
I'M SAYING,
SENPAI?









HEY,
YOSHIDA.

KEEP
IT.

FWP

ANIKI!!

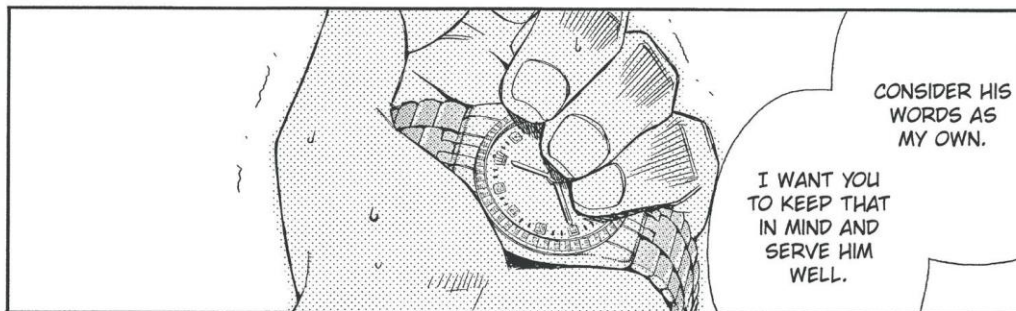
P-PLEASE!!
LET ME GO
WITH-!



...HE'S A HELL
OF A MAN IN
HIS OWN
RIGHT.

ASK LITTLE
GIN ABOUT
WHAT TO
DO NEXT.

YOU MAY
NOT LIKE
HIM, BUT...



CONSIDER HIS
WORDS AS
MY OWN.

I WANT YOU
TO KEEP THAT
IN MIND AND
SERVE HIM
WELL.



...

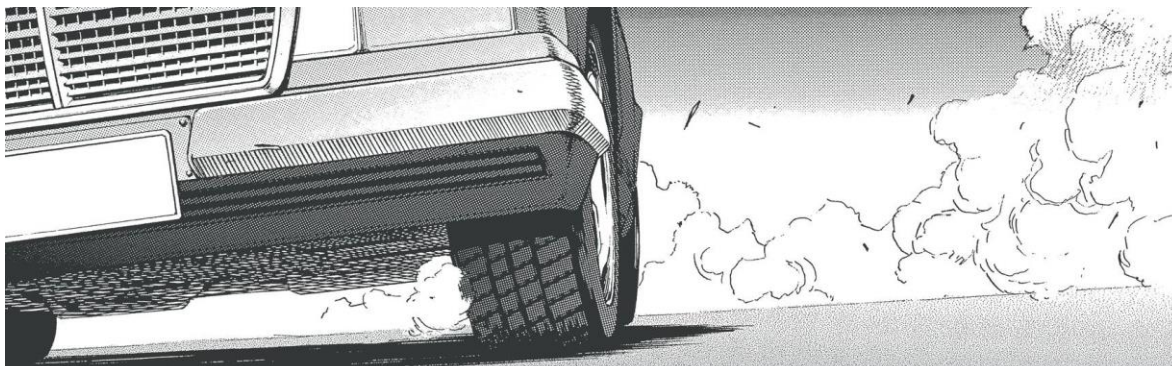
ANIKI!!!



WELL...

...SO
LONG...

...OR
SOMETHIN'.



Chapter 27: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part VI







GOD
FUCKING
DAMN IT!!



THOSE
RUSSIAN
BASTARDS!!



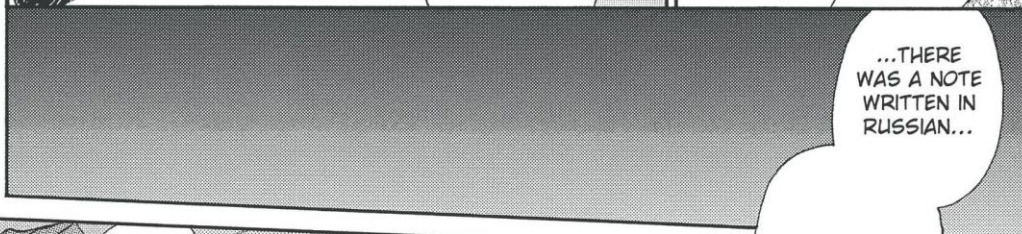
...
WAS THERE
ANYTHIN'
ELSE?



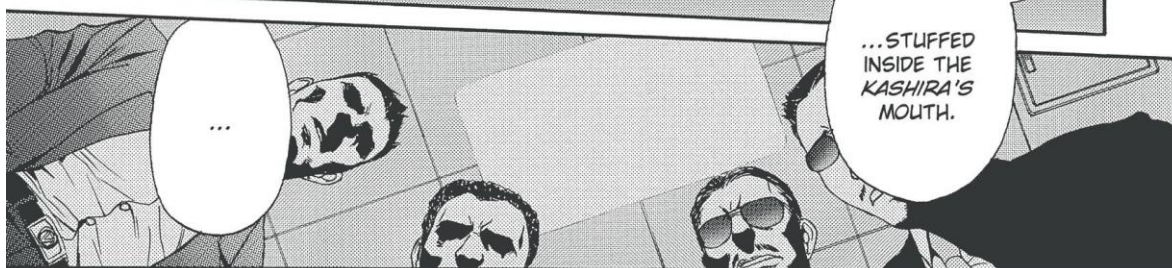
WE CAN'T
LET WORD
GET OUT
YET.

I FEEL BAD
FOR THE
KASHIRA, BUT
HE'S GONNA
HAVE TO WAIT
A LITTLE
LONGER...

...BEFORE WE
CAN SEND HIS
SOUL TO THE
PURE LAND.



...THERE
WAS A NOTE
WRITTEN IN
RUSSIAN...



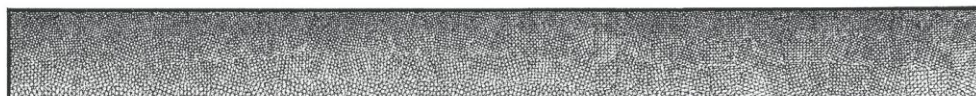
...STUFFED
INSIDE THE
KASHIRA'S
MOUTH.

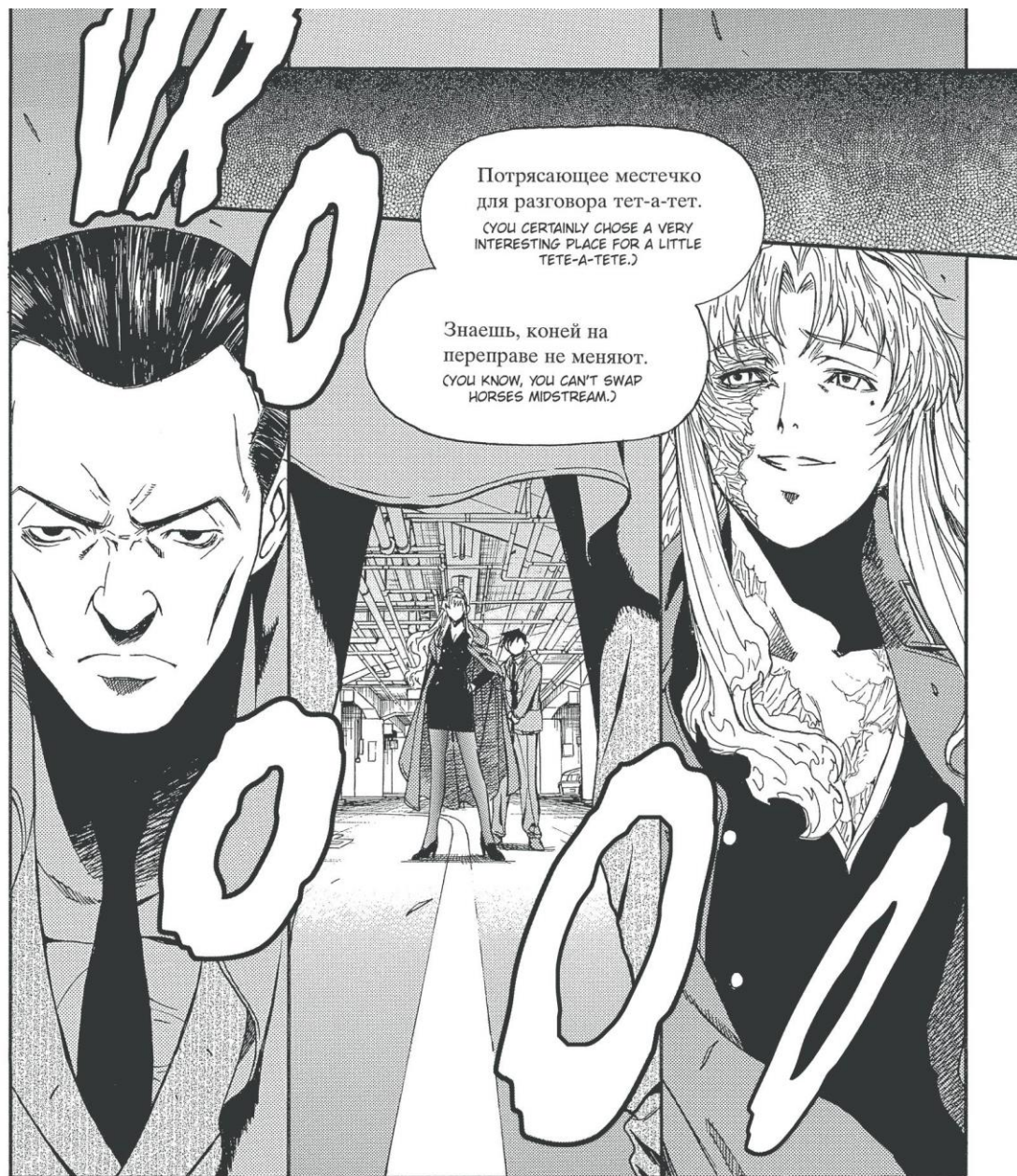


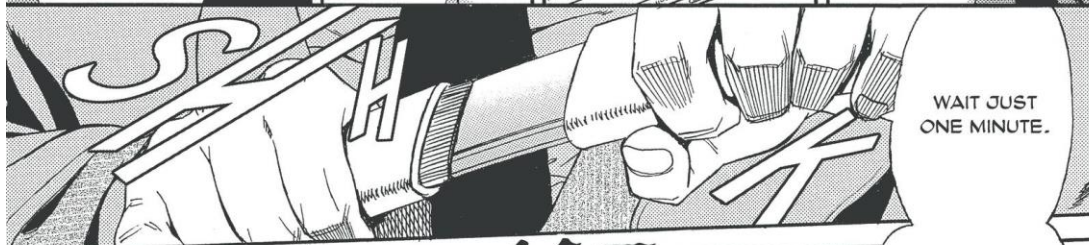
THAT'S WHAT
WAS WRITTEN
ON IT.
MOTHERFUCKERS
!!

"YELLOW IS
THE COLOR OF
COWARDS."

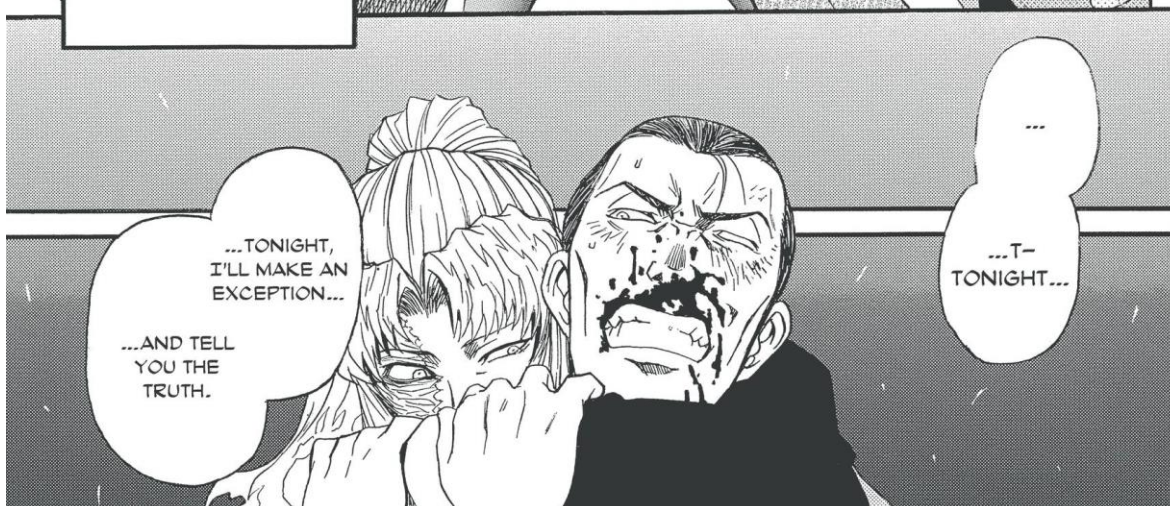














...SUCH AN
OPTION IS
PLAUSIBLE.
BUT...

WORKING
SIDE BY
SIDE.

TRUE...



I AM HERE
TO BRING
DESTRUCTION AND
DOMINATION.

...THAT'S
FOR OFFICE
WORKERS. I
HAVE NO NEED
FOR SUCH
ARRANGEMENTS.

UNDERSTAND?

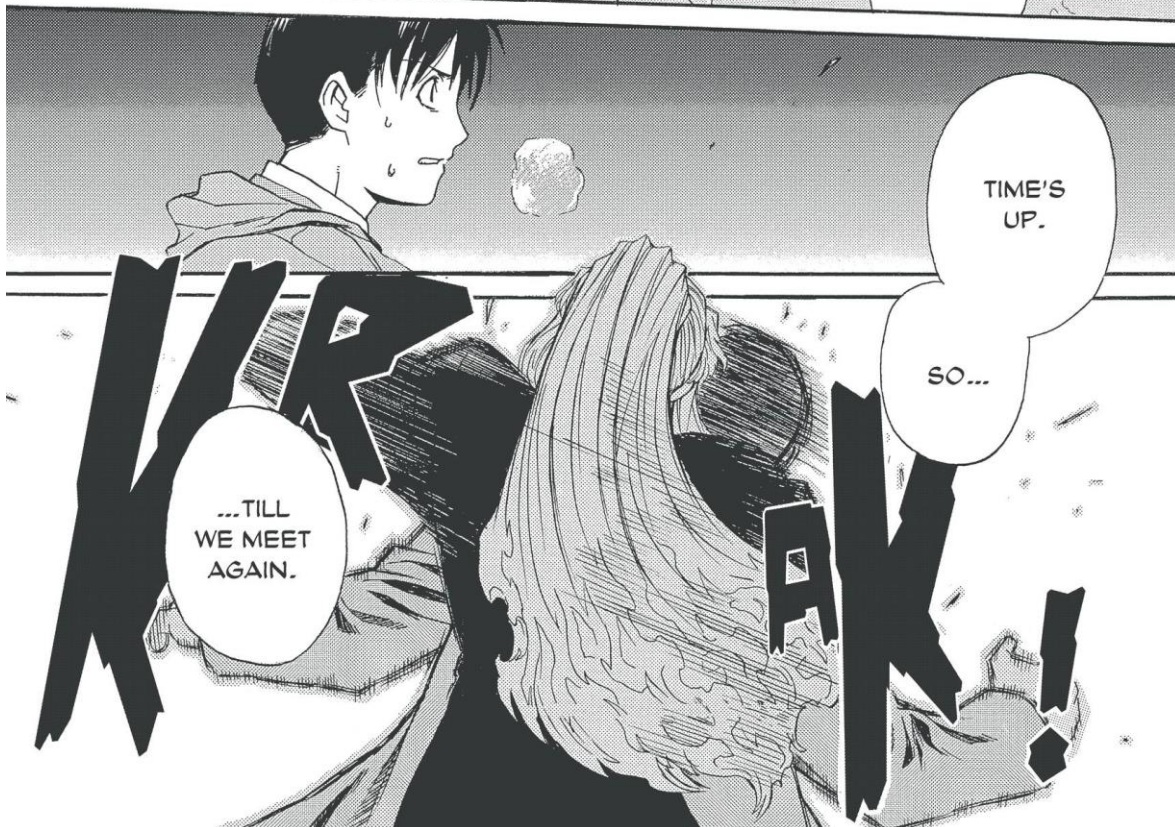


...I CAN
DANCE ON
THE BOTTOM
OF HELL'S
CAULDRON.

...ALL I
CARE ABOUT
IS SEEING
HOW LONG ...

I AM NOT
INTERESTED
IN ANYTHING
ELSE. NOTHING
LESS. NO
COMPROMISES.

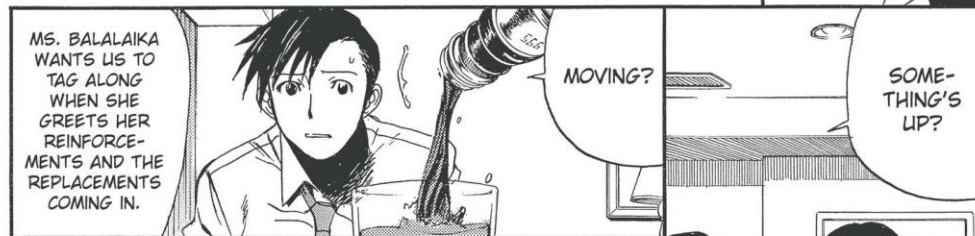
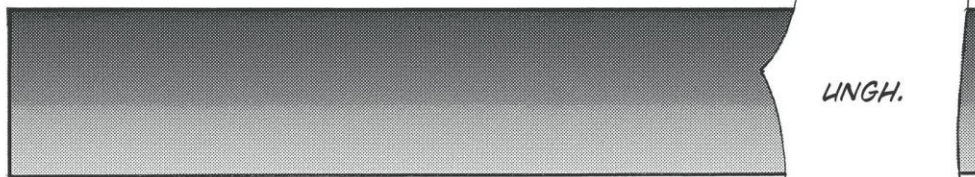
YOU
SEE...

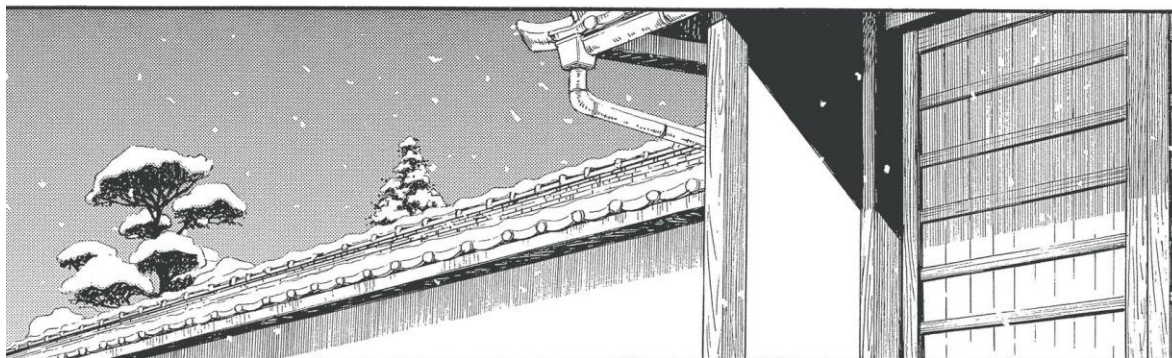


TIME'S
UP.

SO...

...TILL
WE MEET
AGAIN.









THAT'S JUST CRAP THOSE KOSA PUNKS DREAMT UP.

YOU CAN'T TAKE THEIR WORD ON BULL LIKE--

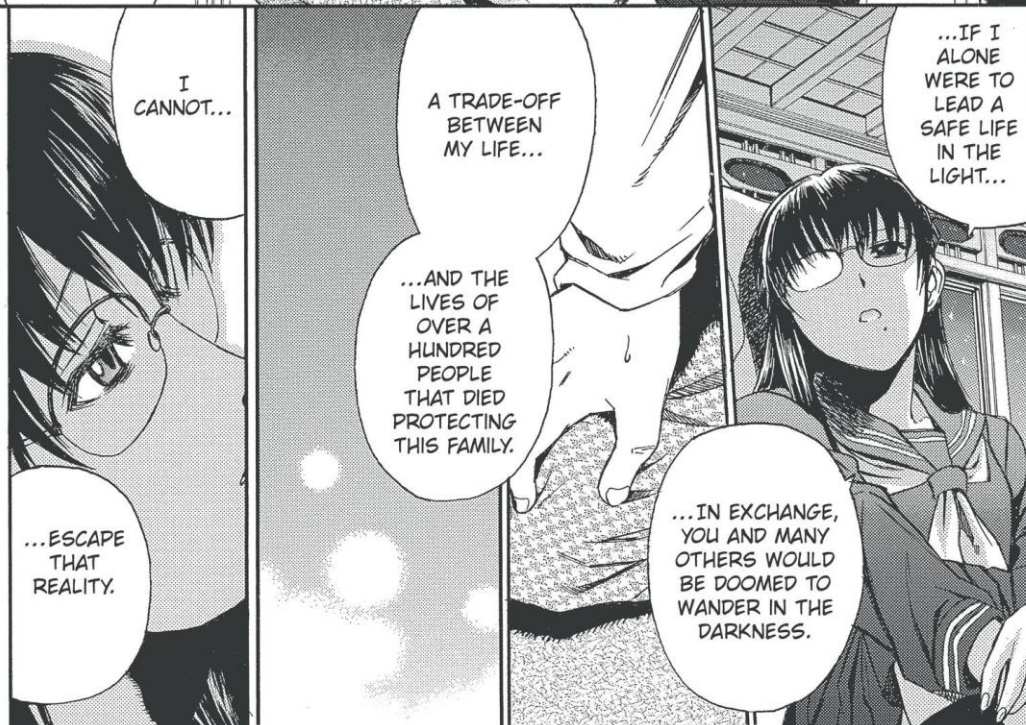
MISS...THAT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION!!

BUT...

IF I AM THE LAST REMAINING PILLAR OF THE WASHIMINE GUMI...

...THEN THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.

...THERE'S NO OTHER WAY, IS THERE?



I CANNOT...

A TRADE-OFF BETWEEN MY LIFE...

...AND THE LIVES OF OVER A HUNDRED PEOPLE THAT DIED PROTECTING THIS FAMILY.

...IF I ALONE WERE TO LEAD A SAFE LIFE IN THE LIGHT...

...ESCAPE THAT REALITY.

...IN EXCHANGE, YOU AND MANY OTHERS WOULD BE DOOMED TO WANDER IN THE DARKNESS.



I'VE COME
THIS FAR...

MY ONE
AND ONLY
WISH...

...WAS FOR
YOU TO ENJOY
THE KIND OF
HAPPINESS
THAT REAL
FOLK DO...

MISS
YUKIO.

...FOCUSED
ON THAT
GOAL
ALONE.

THAT'S WHAT
I TAKE TO BE
MY PURPOSE
IN LIFE...

MY...

EVERY
SINGLE ONE
OF 'EM...

...IS HARD AT
WORK, TRYIN'
TO WRECK OUR
LIVES, AND
TEAR EVERY-
THING APART!!

I...

...RAGE IS
BOILING OVER
INSIDE ME...
AGAINST THOSE
ROTTEN KOSA
BASTARDS.
AGAINST THE
DIRTY LOWLIFE
RUSSIANS.

GINJI-SAN...

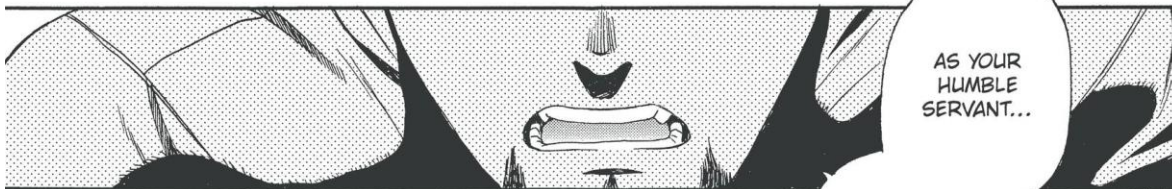


...THE SNOW
FALLING AT
NIGHT. IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL.

THIS IS
THE FIRST
TIME I'VE EVER
REALIZED IT.

...GINJI-
SAN...





AS YOUR
HUMBLE
SERVANT...



...I, GINJI
MATSUZAKI,
THE INTERIM
WAKAGASHIRA
OF THE
WASHIMINE-
GUMI...



...DO HEREBY
SWEAR TO
PROTECT YOU...

...WITH EVERY
FIBER OF MY
BEING, IN THIS
LIFE AND BEYOND.



Chapter 28: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part VII





HUH?

SENPAI,
DIDN'T YOU
SAY YOU
HATED-

MAKI-
CHAN.



I WANT
YOU TO
GET ALONG
WITH YOUR
MOTHER.

HM?

...

HOW
BEAUTIFUL.

YOU'RE A
GOOD GIRL
AND YOU
KNOW IT.





...SODAI.

AT YOUR
SERVICE...

GOOD-BYE...

...MAKI-CHAN.

THANK
YOU FOR
WAITING.

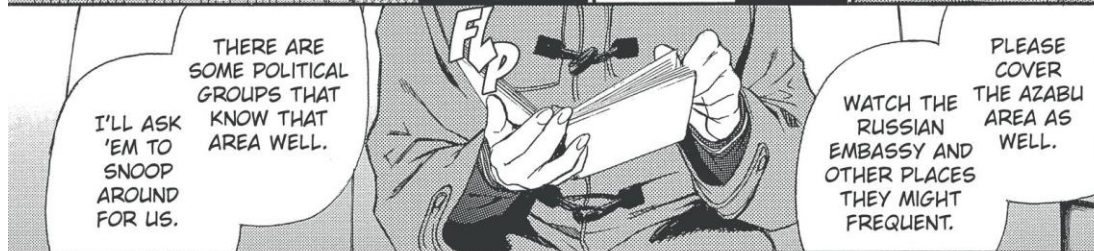
RIGHT,
LET'S BEGIN.

UH...

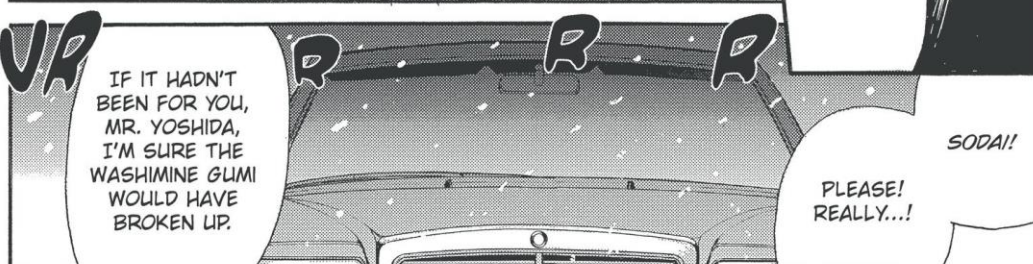
UHM...







*TERM OF RESPECT FOR A TOP YAKUZA LEADER







WELL, I DON'T
KNOW A BETTER
TIME TO START
THAN NOW!!

OUR DEAR
MISS IS SAYIN'
SHE'S GONNA PUT
HER LIFE ON THE
LINE FOR THIS.

YOU MEN
WANTED A WAY
TO PROVE YOUR
CHIVALRY AND
HONOR.



WHAT'S THE
POINT OF BEING
A MAN OF THE
GOKUDO, IF YOU
CAN'T FIGHT FOR
SOMEONE LIKE
THAT?

I DIDN'T DO
NOTHIN'
SPECIAL.
MISS, YOU'RE
STICKING OUT
YOUR NECK
T'GET REVENGE
FOR THE
KASHIRA. 'AT'S
SOMETHIN' YOU
DIDN'T HAVE
TO DO.



...I
SUPPOSE
SO...



AND
BESIDES,
MISS.



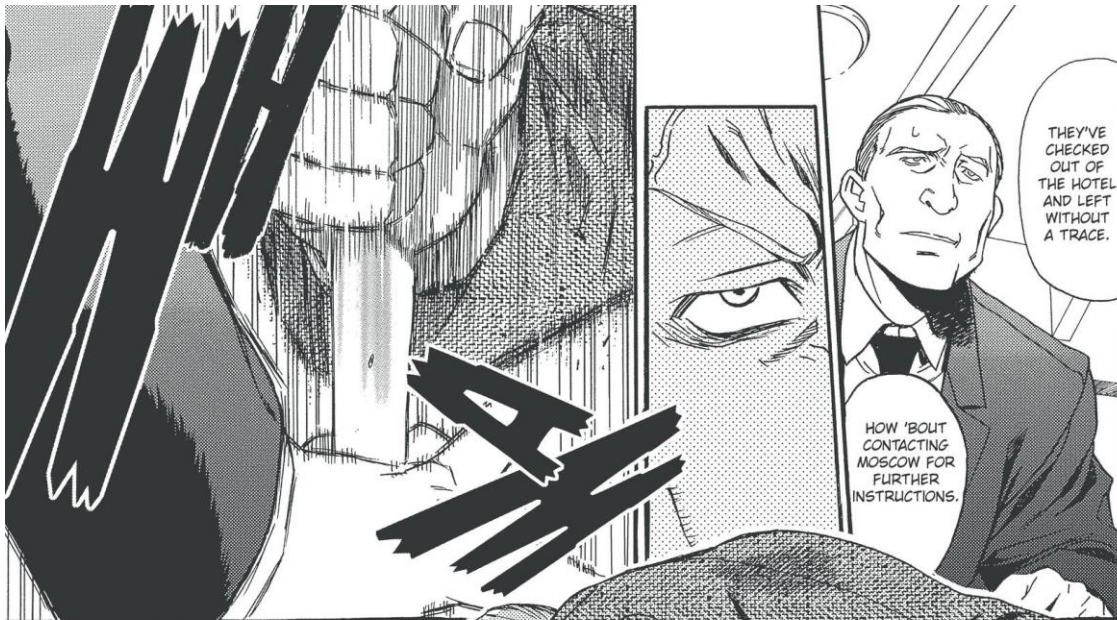
RIGHT,
SODAI.

ALLOW ME TO
GET THIS BALL
ROLLING. I'LL
SEE YOU LATER
AT HOME.

MR.
GIN.

EVERYONE
BELOW
KNOWS
DAMN
WELL...
...YOU'RE
NOT DOING
THIS FOR
POWER OR
GLORY.





















FINALLY, I CAN GET RID OF THIS WORTHLESS TOKAREV.
CAN'T GET ANYWHERE WITHOUT THESE. HUH?



BALALAIKA WILL GET PISSED UNLESS WE HUSTLE!



...
THAT GIRL.



REVV.

I CAN'T TURN A BLIND EYE.

*SCROLLING SIGN: ...WASHIMINE GUMI OFFICES RAIDED BY...



REVV.

I CAN'T
TURN A
BLIND EYE.

WILL YOU
COME WITH
ME TO GO
SEE THAT
GIRL YUKIO?



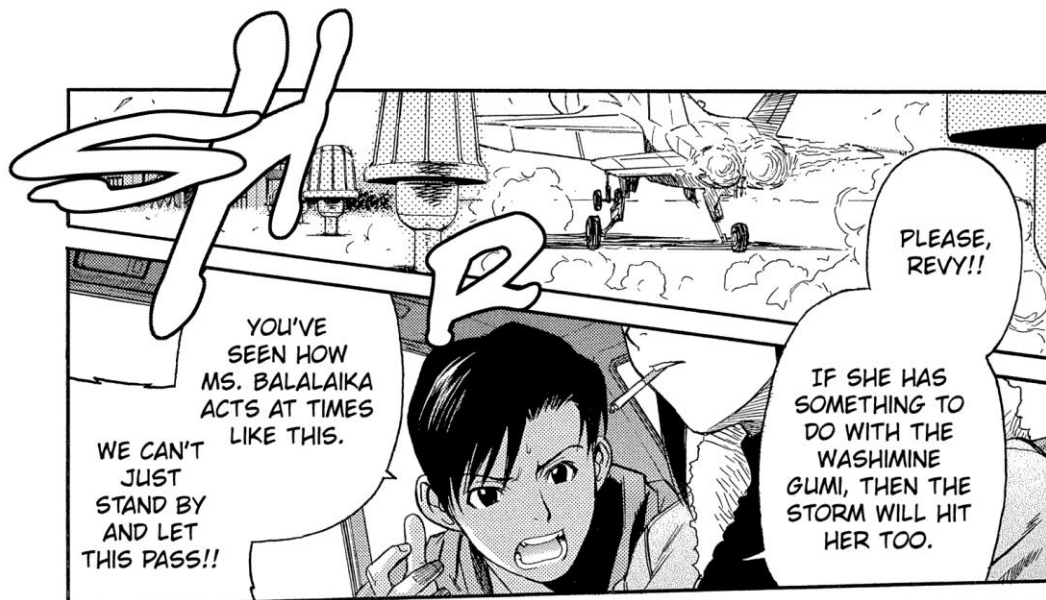
Chapter 29: Fujiyama Gangsta Paradise - Part VIII



YOU
OUT OF
YOUR
MIND?

YOU
PUT YOUR
THINKING
CAP ON AND
FIGURE OUT
WHAT WE ARE
TO THEM.

WE'RE
THEIR
MOST
HATED
ENEMY,
ROCK.



YOU'VE
SEEN HOW
MS. BALALAIKA
ACTS AT TIMES
LIKE THIS.
WE CAN'T
JUST
STAND BY
AND LET
THIS PASS!!

PLEASE,
REVVY!!

IF SHE HAS
SOMETHING TO
DO WITH THE
WASHIMINE
GUMI, THEN THE
STORM WILL HIT
HER TOO.



THAT GIRL
ISN'T LIKE
US! SHE'S
A REGULAR
SCHOOLGIRL!

LISTEN TO
ME, ROCK.

STAY OUT
OF IT. IT'S
FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD.

AND
THIS ISN'T
ROANAPUR!!



EITHER WAY,
THAT GAL'S
CROSSED OVER
THE LINE.

AND THE MADAM'LL
TAKE CARE OF
BUSINESS JUST
LIKE BACK IN
ROANAPUR.
WHAT'S THE DIFF?

HOW SO?
WHAT MAKES
THIS PLACE
ANY DIFFERENT
FROM
ROANAPUR,
ROCK?



...

I'M BEGGIN'
YOU, ROCK.

WE'RE
RIGHT ON THE
DIVIDING LINE
HERE. IF
YOU CROSS
OVER...

...YOU WON'T
BE ABLE TO
COME BACK.
EVER.

YOU GET
WHAT I'M
TRYIN' TO
SAY?

...

YEAH,
BUT...

...I CAN'T
JUST...

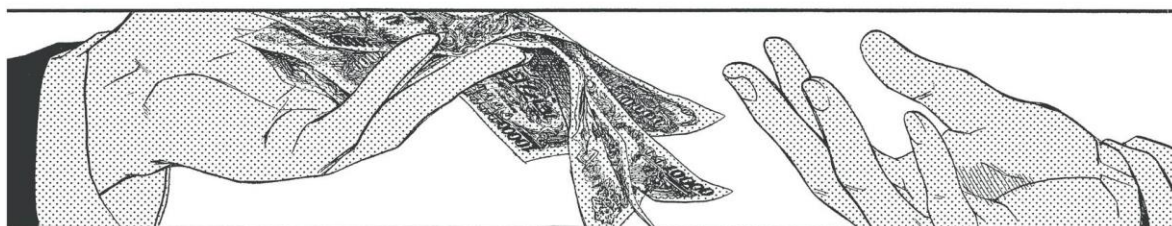
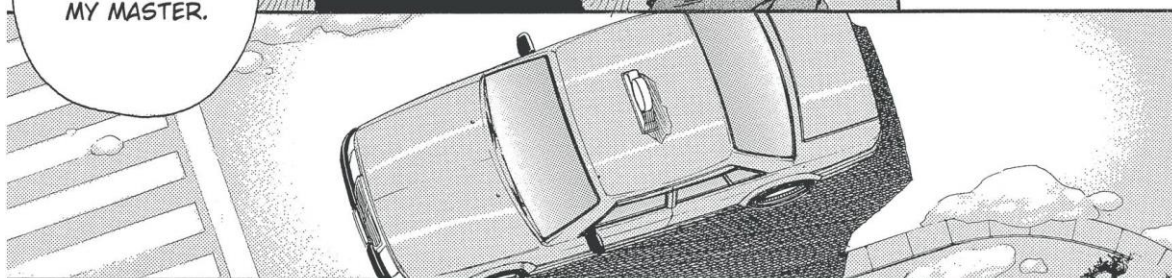
THEY'RE SOLD OUT
OF AMERIPASS AND
THE GREYHOUND
WON'T COME
THROUGH HERE
NO MORE.

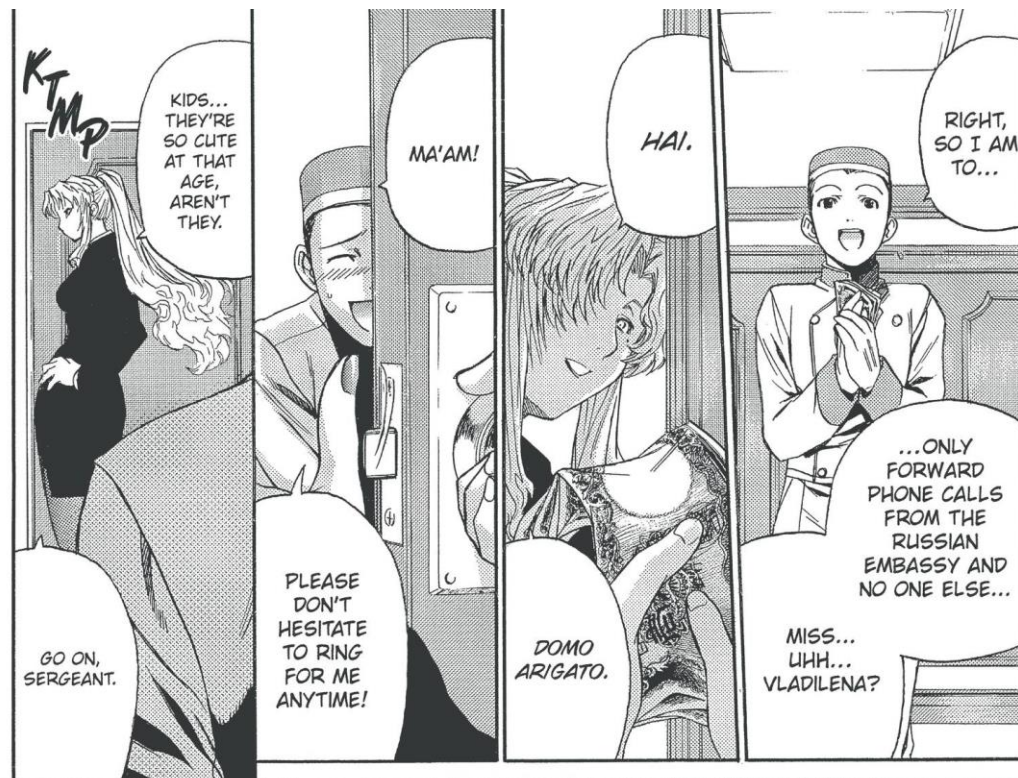
ROCK. THIS IS
YOUR COUNTRY,
YOUR HOME.
LISTEN, MAN...

I
UNDER-
STAND.

BUT
STILL...

...







"QUALITY
ALWAYS
OUTSTRIPS
QUANTITY."

GSH

ANY POLICE
FORCE THAT
CANNOT BE
BRIBED IS
EXCEPTIONAL.

NOW
THEN...

...RECITED
OVER AND OVER
AGAIN BY THE
INSTRUCTORS
AT OSTROV
VRANGELYA.

AH, I
CAN
FONDLY
RECALL
THAT
SAYING...

...DID YOU
HEAR THE NEWS,
SERGEANT?

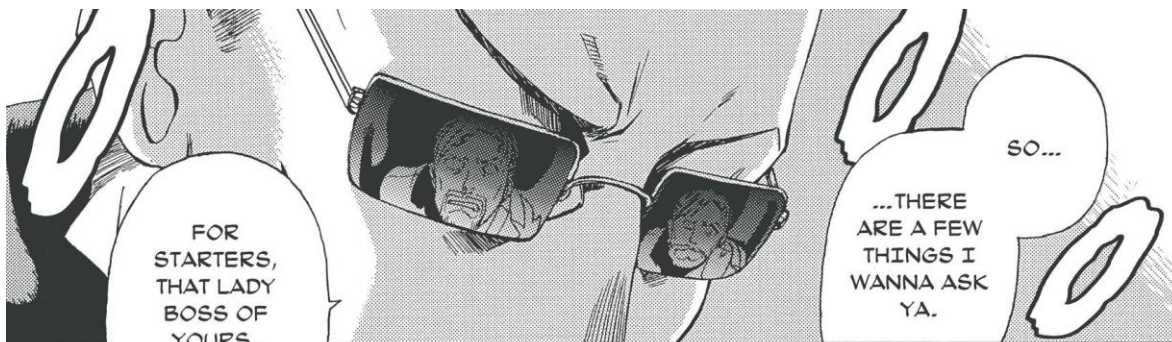
THE ISSUE
IS ONE OF
QUALITY.

YES
SIR.

...EXCEPTION-
ALLY WELL.

COMRADE
LAPTEV
PERFORMED
HIS DUTIES...

10





I AGREE,
SERGEANT.

FOR
A MERE
CHEKIST...

...HE WAS
QUITE
USEFUL...

...IN
PROVIDING
US WITH
ACTIONABLE
INTELLIGENCE.



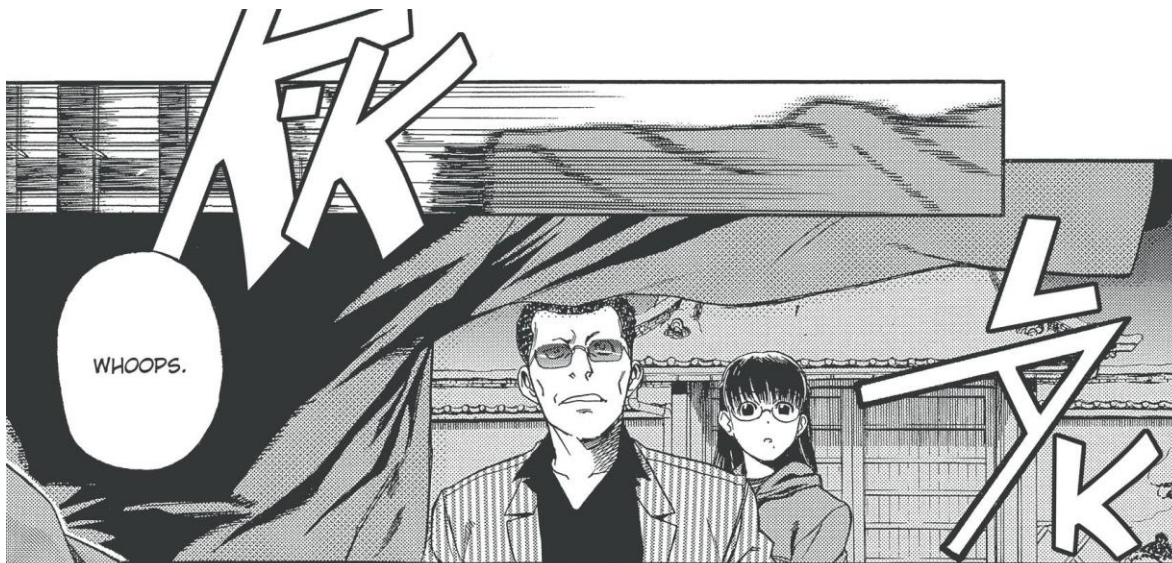
HIS
REPLACEMENT
IS MONK
BULIGASHVILI.

HE'S QUITE
PROFICIENT IN
SCAMS, SCHEMES,
AND SAVAGERY.

BUT
VIOLENCE
IS OUR
SPECIALTY.

LET'S BEGIN
OUR MISSION,
SERGEANT.





WHOOOPS.

I THOUGHT YOU'D
TAKE A LITTLE
LONGER. OH
WELL.♡

HELLO.

BACK SO
SOON.



CHAKA!

YOU MIND
YOUR
PLACE
AROUND
HERE!

YOU EVEN
LISTENIN'
TO ME?!



YEAH,
YEAH.

THIS IS AN
EMERGENCY.

HAVING
MORE
TROOPS
AROUND'LL
PUT YOUR
MIND AT
EASE.

RIGHT,
MISS?
♡

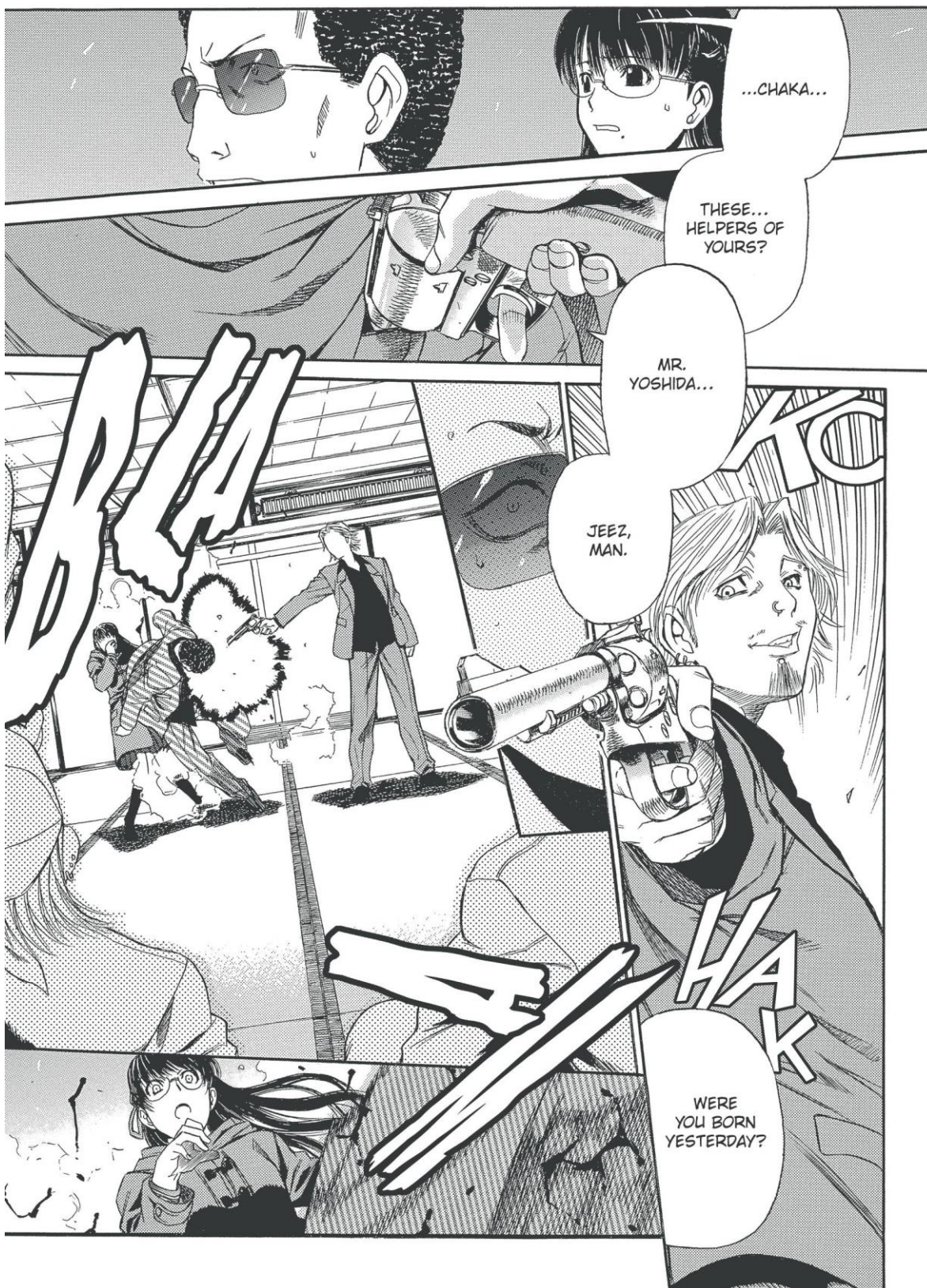


CHAKA.

WHAT THE
HELL'RE
YOU DOIN'
HERE?

YOU
GOT TURF
T'PROTECT.
WHAT'S
GOIN' ON?





...CHAKA...

THESE...
HELPERS OF
YOURS?

MR.
YOSHIDA...

JEEZ,
MAN.

WERE
YOU BORN
YESTERDAY?



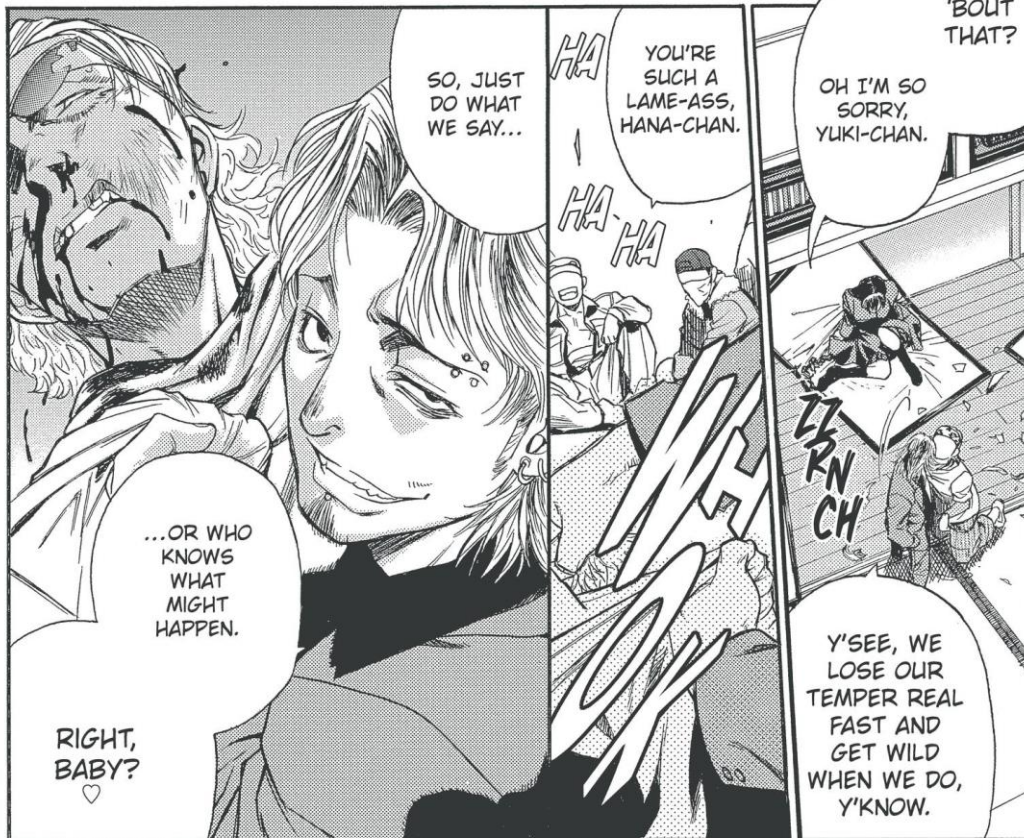








WELL,
HOW
'BOUT
THAT?



SO, JUST
DO WHAT
WE SAY...

YOU'RE
SUCH A
LAME-ASS,
HANA-CHAN.

OH I'M SO
SORRY,
YUKI-CHAN.

...OR WHO
KNOWS
WHAT
MIGHT
HAPPEN.

RIGHT,
BABY?
♡

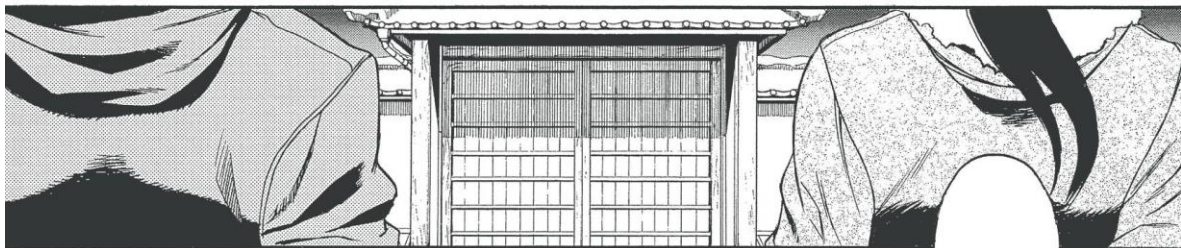
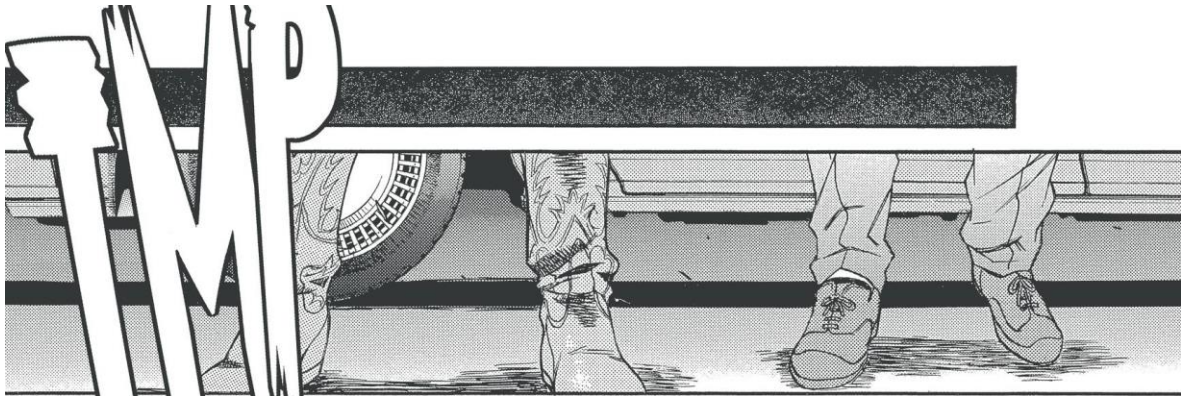
Y'SEE, WE
LOSE OUR
TEMPER REAL
FAST AND
GET WILD
WHEN WE DO,
Y'KNOW.



AH'M...

...SORRY,
SORRY!
BLEEZ...!

GAKK!







NO, IF IT WAS...

...THEN THE GIRL'S BODY WOULD BE BESIDE HIM.

MS. BALALAIKA WOULDN'T SEE YUKIO AS A USEFUL HOSTAGE.

MAYBE SOME AK'S TOO. BUT LOOK AT THE FLOOR.

WHY AREN'T THERE ANY CASINGS LYING AROUND?

...AND SHE'D HAVE USED HER STECHKIN.

OTHERS IN HER CADRE USE VARYAG'S AND OTHER MILITARY SEMI-AUTOS.

BALALAIKA?



AND
Y'KNOW
...

RLL

EXIT
WOUND
FROM
A LARGE
CALIBER
GUN.

CHA-CHING,
JACKPOT.

...
BECAUSE
THE GUN
WAS A
REVOLVER.

...THERE'S
ONE
MORON IN
PARTICULAR
THAT COMES
TO MIND.

THE KIND OF
GUN A TOTAL
MORON WHO
WANTS TO SHOW
OFF CARRIES
AROUND.

I FEEL
SORRY FOR
YOSHIDA. HE
AIN'T HALF
THE MAN HE
USED TO BE.

TAKE A
LOOK.



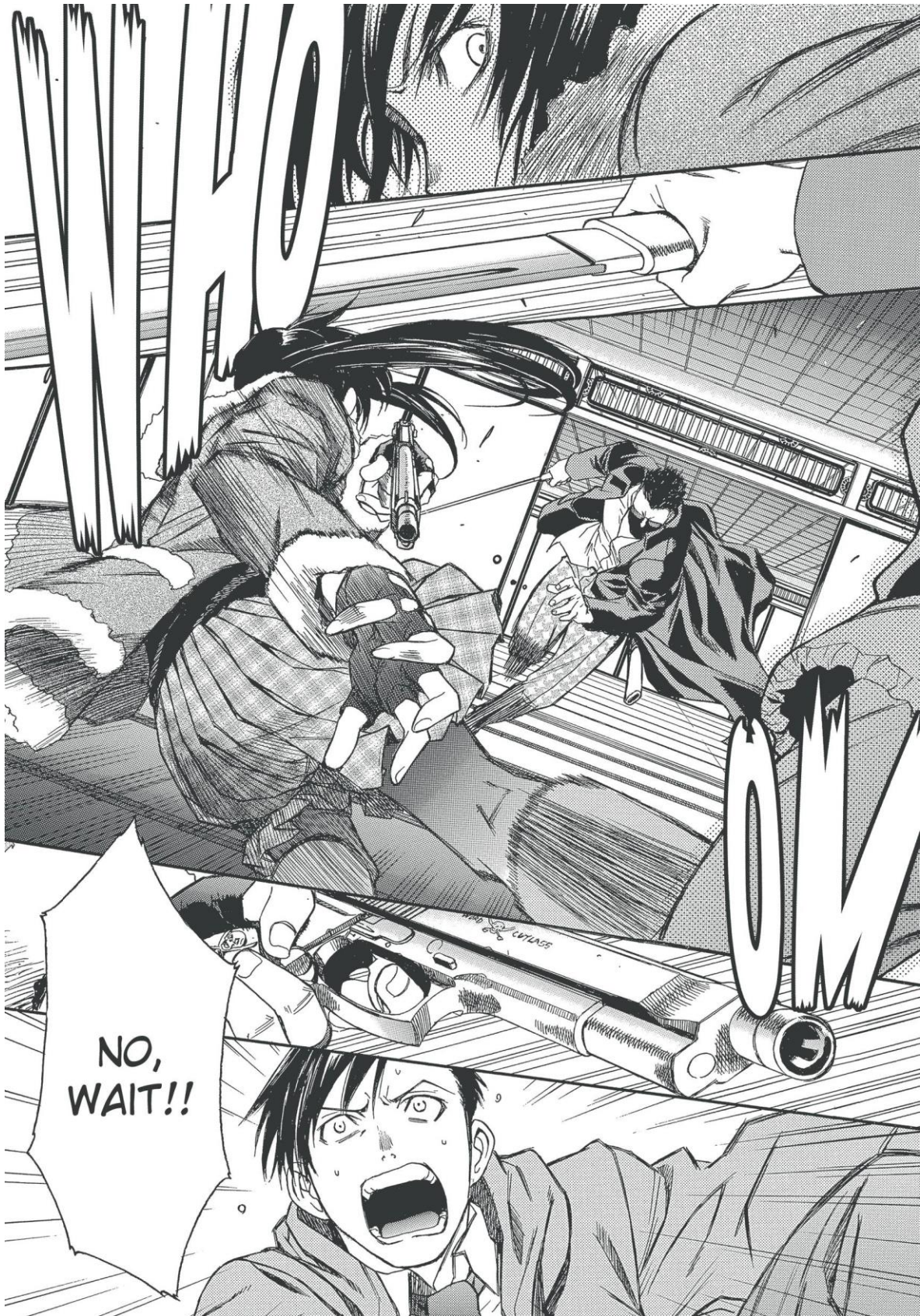
SHK

...

YEAH, IT'S
GOTTA BE
HIM.

BUT...

BUT WHY
WOULD HE
BETRAY HIS
OWN?





Black Lagoon Volume 4 - The End -









NO PLUNCH LINE HERE. MOVE ALONG.

ORIGINAL CONCEPT: MR. SAWARA HASE.

AFTERWORD

REI HIROE, JUNE 13TH, 2005

IT'S VOLUME 4 EVERYONE. IT SURE DID TAKE A WHILE TO GET THIS FAR. VOLUME 4 AND 5 ARE SHIFTING TOWARD A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT TRACK FROM BEFORE, BUT I HOPE ALL OF YOU WILL KEEP UP WITH ME. PLEASE. I'M BEGGIN' YOU.

MY DEEP THANKS TO
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

MY EDITOR, MR. WOO.

MY ASSISTANTS, B-RIVER AND ITAKO.

COOPERATION: DAN KANEMITSU FOR
ENGLISH AND THE CHAPTER TITLES.
TOSHIRO ISHIYAMA AND ITSUKI AKIBA
FOR THE RUSSIAN AND MILITARY
STUFF.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: RYOSUKE TAKAGI
IN THE ARMS MAGAZINE EDITORIAL
OFFICES FOR THE GUN PROP
PRODUCTION.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR READING
MY WORK.
I'LL SEE YOU IN VOLUME 5.

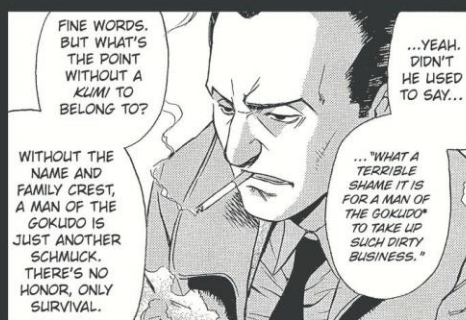
REI HIROE

Sorry for the long wait. Here's volume 4. The Chinese *cheongsam* dress on this volume's cover will be followed by a Japanese schoolgirl uniform in the next volume.



Rei Hiroe was born on December 5, 1972. After working at a game company, he debuted as a mangaka in 1993. He has been an active illustrator and dojinshi, and has created many titles released through the dojin community. He is best known for his works, *Hisuikyokutan* and *SHOOK UP!* (both currently available in new formats published by Shogakukan) and his first artwork collection, *Barrage*.

Editor's Note



The Yakuza

The yakuza are known for their strict hierarchical structure and elaborate rituals, the most infamous of which is *yubitsume* (cutting off a finger to apologize for a mistake), and for their full-body tattoos, often done with hand-made bamboo needles. In most major Japanese cities, the yakuza control or have a hand in all manner of street-level organized crime, particularly prostitution and protection rackets, though competition from foreign organized crime groups is increasing. At a higher level, the yakuza influence politicians and big business through extortion, blackmail and sophisticated financial scams.

The Washimine-gumi's struggle for recognition is based around the *sakazuki* (sake sharing ritual) by which yakuza groups are recognized and oaths of loyalty established. After the death of Yukio's father, the Washimine-gumi was rendered essentially leaderless since the *kumicho* of the Kosa Kai did not subsequently conduct the *sakazuki* with anyone in the Washimine family. Bando's position as interim leader was never meant to be permanent and with Yukio the only eligible Washimine heir, it seems Yukio's terrible decision was the only way to save her family's honor.



The Russian Mafia

After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russian organized crime groups sprang up like wildfires in the aftermath of that nation's economic collapse. Traditional Russian gangsters, including those known as the *Vory v Zakone* (Thieves in Law) took up the role of leadership of the new Russian crime syndicates. The ranks of these new gangs then swelled with an influx of former intelligence agents (KGB and GRU) and veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Chechnya. The Russian Mob is actually composed of several loosely organized groups with a worldwide reach, particularly on the U.S. East Coast and in Europe.

Balalaika and her outfit serve the interests of Hotel Moscow and its leaders back in Moscow. Although nominally run by *Vor* Laptev, Balalaika quickly recognizes Hotel Moscow's Tokyo branch needs a new overseer and makes her move, on *Vor* Slevenin's orders. Assuming Hotel Moscow is run by the male-dominated *Vor v Zakone*, it is unlikely that Balalaika may ever receive the title *Vor*, but she hardly needs such an outdated honor—her skill and ruthless attitude are surely enough to take her to the top.



BLACK LAGOON

004

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